Now, such language as this was not only disgraceful, but immediately calculated to disturb the peace of the Colony. Why, it was only so recently as the year 1856, the hon. the Colonial Secretary wrote a letter to Robert Hutchinson, Esq., the then Mayor of this City of Charlottetown. The letter bears date August 15th, 1856. [An extract from which was published in a speech of Mr. H's. in the *Islander* of 1st May.] He (Mr. H.) told the hon. Colonial Secretary that if he would come to Cascumpec he would be pleased to show him plenty of Bibles in the neighbourhood. He was sorry he should have so far forgotten himself as to have so grossly insulted Catholic ladies, he had given the hon. gentleman credit for more pluck.

[Some slight personal altercation occurred here of not the slightest public interest.]

Mr. Howlan again complained that the religion of Catholics had been insulted in all that they held most dear, by one who had vainly endeavoured to gain, by intrigue, their political support.

Hon. Col. Secretary denied that he had done so.

Mr. Howlan—There could be no doubt in any reasonable mind but that the hon. the Colonial Secretary had compromised his independence; and that question, after all that had been published upon the subject of the hon. Colonial Secretary's visits to His Lordship the Bishop, upon the subject of the endowment of St. Dunstan's College, might fairly be left to the judgment of the people of the Colony. If this bill were passed, he could not but feel that his religion had been assailed; their time had been wasted by long and weary discussions on this Act of Incorporation when it might have been much more profitably employed for the benefit of the country. In fact, if they did not accelerate their progress, they might find themselves sitting there in June. Their time could have been much better employed than in attacking the religious opinions of their fellow-colonists. He would yield to no man in defence of his own, and, on the other hand, he would not willingly or knowingly give offence to that of his neighbors. He, therefore, most strenuously opposed the second reading of the Bill.

Hon. Mr. Coles was very doubtful where the evils of a Bill like this, if carried through, would end. The proposed Act of Incorporation, while giving rise to great heart-burnings and trouble in the community, would not remove a single one of the alleged grievances against Catholicism. The prayer book of the Church of England itself might be perverted, he believed, if it were read in the manner that the Hon. Colonial Secretary had used in respect to the books from which he had, during the session, favoured the House with so many quotations. It was worse than useless to rake up old grievances; they did no good, but when they compared the notorious massacre at Glencoe with that of Scullabogue, the Glencoe massacre, ordered by William of Orange himself, would be found to have been one of the worst recorded in history. No reasonable argument had been adduced to show why such a Society should be incorporated. It was argued that the Roman Catholic Bishop of Charlottetown had endeavoured to obtain "an Act of Incorporation," and that the only question upon the matter was the simple difference between "of" and "in." That was said to be an error of the Queen's Printer, who, it seemed to him, was either always making mistakes or being blamed for those of somebody else. He could not, nor would not, believe that the Priests of any religion were so bad as the hon. the Col. Secretary represented the Priests of the Roman Catholic Church to be. It had been stated in the House that the Roman Catholic Bishop was Editor of one of the newspapers published in the City. It was well known that the Parsons exercised too much power and influence over the newspapers published in the Island; they should mind their own business, and not willingly give offence to others. The duty of every Minister, no matter to what creed or religion he belonged, was to preach the true doctrine of the faith, according to his own opinions; at the same time taking special care not to attack the religious faith of his neighbors, but to allow them the same liberty that he claimed for himself; and if the principle were not adopted, and practically carried out, they could not expect peace or harmony in the Colony. Several objections had been raised, and questions asked by hon. members on the Government side of the House, relative to a question that might be put in the Confessional as to the "purity of the flock." He (Hon. Mr. C.) believed that if the question were put, as he believed they were put, nobody but the culprit could take offence. Why, it was too well known here, in this City of Charlottetown, that Orangemen when the opportunity offered—and he believed that in many cases the opportunity had been deliberately planned—had never hesitated to defile Catholic girls; and it would certainly be well that the Orangemen should obey the Scriptural injunction:—"Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote that is in thy brother's eye." There had been no sufficient reasons adduced for the passing of this bill, which, not only from its framing but from the principles it laid down, could not be but most obnoxious to every Roman Catholic. The Orangemen, the body which this Bill sought to incorporate, it was well known, were a violent political faction. Now the Catholics, although they had been often charged with the crime of being Liberals, had no wish to interfere with either the political or religious opinions of others. It was a well known fact that Orangemen were peaceable only when it suited their own purposes. Not long since, a clergyman had been grossly insulted at Brackley Point by Orangemen; and the incorporation of this secret Society, with the rules and regulations, from which extracts had been read by the hon. the Col. Secretary, would be an insult to every Catholic in the Island. It was generally reported that when the present members for the City were brought forward, one for re-election, the other for election, that the Orangemen had put certain questions to them.

Hon. Mr. Davies.—Some questions had been put, but an answer had been declined, both by his colleague and himself.

Hon. Mr. Coles knew that the question had been put to the hon. members, and was satisfied with the explanation. If this Bill passed, they would have party processions, party banners, and a strong increase of party feeling. In fact, it was high time that the hon. the leader of the Government should take some prompt steps in the matter.

[Hon. Mr. Coles here read a letter from the *Examiner*, relative to the Orange association.]

Hon. Col. Secretary.—Those were by-laws, not interrogatories.

Hon. Mr. Coles.—Neither Catholics nor Protestants should tie themselves to the tail of any party, but use their best efforts for the common good of the Colony. This could not be brought about by attacking Catholics, as the hon. the Colonial Secretary had done. In England, no Protestant constituency had ever returned a Roman Catholic member as its representative; while the Catholics in this Island had acted in a different manner, as might be noticed in one instance, at least, (although there were others) the return of the hon. member for East Point, who, although a good Protestant, and who did not support the grant to St. Dunstan's College, had been returned by what is termed a Roman Catholic district. The Roman Catholics in the Island had, in fact, thrown out the olive branch, but it was not accepted, and the question arose as to what should be done. Was it safe or politic to keep this political, religious question continually before the public? With regard to the matter of prayers, and the allusions that had been made with respect to absent members at the opening of the House, or members leaving the House, he (Mr. C.) was of opinion that no member could feel himself bound to hear the prayers of a political agitator, who had obtained his situation through the influences brought to bear upon the Government by the Society it was now, by this Bill, proposed to incorporate. He (Mr. C.) himself would be no slave even to his own Minister, if he felt that the Minister was going wrong, or requested him to act in a manner inconsistent with his duty, as a member of the House; no matter what the question might be, he would oppose it. The present discussion had been a long and wearisome one; it could not be productive of even the slightest amount of good to the Colony; and the less religious strife was started and encouraged amongst them, the better it would be for the whole Island.

[After a few further remarks from other members, the question for the second reading of the Bill was put, and carried on a division of 14 to 10.]

CORRESPONDENCE.

(FOR THE EXAMINER.)

THE TRUE POSITION AND DUTY OF LIBERAL PROTESTANTS.

Mr. Editor;

Your strictures on a letter that recently appeared in the *Protestant* excited my curiosity. A friend was kind enough to lend me the number which contained the communication. I read it carefully, and if you will allow a sincere, well-meaning, and, I trust, honest Liberal Protestant space in your columns, I intend to make a few remarks on its contents.

It is very unfortunate that "A Liberal Protestant's" first assertion is a falsehood. We more than suspect the man who begins his story by stating what we know to be untrue. In the first sentence of his letter he states that "the Protestant Liberals of Prince Edward Island have no organ to represent their views." Every one knows that the *Examiner* is the organ of the Liberal party. Every Liberal who can write decent English, and who wishes to give publicity to his views on any subject of general interest, can do so through the columns of that paper. I never heard of any distinction being made between Protestant and Catholic. I believe such distinction to be an invention of the enemy, calculated to divide the Liberal Party. I know, and every Liberal Protestant who has written for the press knows, that his communications have met with the most favourable consideration from the editor of the *Examiner*. It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity of bearing testimony to the promptness with which that gentleman has published the lucubrations of at least one Liberal Protestant. That everything written by Mr. Whelan should meet with the unqualified approbation of Liberal Protestants or Liberal Catholics, is more than could be expected. I have little doubt that he gives offence to the one class quite as often as he does to the other. He must be a peculiarly fortunate public journalist who can please everybody at all times. That none of the editorial fraternity among us does so, I am very well convinced. I will venture to say that even Mr. Laird himself now and then gets a sharp rap over the knuckles administered by one or other of his readers. I have no doubt but that the *Examiner* is as faithful an exponent of the political convictions of the Liberal party as the *Islander* is of those of the Conservatives; and I am well convinced that the religious opinions—with which, by-the-bye, the public have nothing to do—of the editor of the former paper will find as much favour with the great majority of his Protestant readers as those of the latter will with his.

"A Liberal Protestant" writes, that Liberal Protestants are as sheep without a shepherd. I suppose he wishes the Liberal Party to follow the example of the Conservatives, by submitting to the leadership of a pair of McNabs—a Protestant McNab and a Catholic McNab. That being the case, what is to hinder the Liberal Episcopalians from having their McNab, Liberal Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, and Universalists from each having theirs? We would then be in no want of shepherds, each asserting his claim to the premiership on the soundness of his faith and the purity of his doctrine, and not on the vulgar common sense ground of his possessing the necessary qualifications of a good political party leader. Such folly needs but to be exposed to be condemned. I always understood, until I read "A Liberal Protestant's" letter, that Mr. Coles was the recognised leader of the Liberal party. On his claims to that position it is quite needless for me here to say one word. The part that he has taken with regard to the anti-Orange Petition is one that meets with the approbation of the Liberal party. He would not be a true Liberal if he took any other part. I consider that every patriotic and intelligent Protestant, whether Liberal or Conservative, should sign it. This anti-Orange Petition, in the opinion of "A Liberal Protestant," is going to do the Liberal party a great deal of injury, because, to use his own words, "it places the Liberals of the Island in a false position by identifying them with the Catholic party, and again, those who sign the Petition strike a deadly blow at the Liberal party by identifying Liberalism with Roman Catholicism." This identifying Liberalism with Catholicism is the great bugbear of this zealous Protestant and consistent Liberal writer. He no doubt is ignorant of the fact that this is the position in which Orangemen and Tories wish to place Liberal Protestants. He is not aware of how industrious they have been in proclaiming that all Catholics were Liberals, and all Liberals Catholics or worse. He, sweet innocent, has never heard the epithets disguised Catholic, pseudo Protestant and rotten Protestant, applied to those Protestants who take the Liberal side in politics. When he and his friends can prove that Liberalism and Catholicism are one and the same thing, and that the words Orangeism and Protestantism are synonymous terms, then he and they will have some hope of proving our identity with Catholics. Till then they will excuse us if we consider ourselves as good Protestants as themselves; I can assure him that though I have been now some years a Liberal Protestant, and though I intend to sign this horrid Petition when it is presented to me, I have not yet been to confession, nor do I feel the least inclination to forsake the Church of England and fly to that of Rome. Although our writer does not attempt to prove either of the above mentioned propositions, he has, by a very convenient mode of reasoning, and in a very peculiar style of English, arrived at the conclusion that those who sign the petition in question identify themselves with the Catholics. He says it is notorious, and well known to every candid reader of the history of Orangeism, that when first established in Ireland it was absolutely required to *supplement the weakness of the laws*, and preserve the British rule and policy in that country. What is very ridiculous, he adds that Lord Palmerston made this admission in Parliament. I can assure him that Lord Palmerston never talked such nonsense since he cut his eye teeth. The truth is, that Orangeism, and something stronger than Orangeism, was necessary to enforce the execution of some of the most unjust, iniquitous and oppressive laws that were ever enacted—laws that every English statesman, worthy the name, has long since been ashamed of. Orangemen may have been as necessary in Ireland as Indians and Hessians were in America, and as masses of infantry and cavalry are now in Poland. I don't know what "A Liberal Protestant" means by weak laws, or how Orangemen managed to supplement them; but I do know that the code under which Ireland groaned for more than a hundred years was *hard*, beyond the belief of ninety-nine hundredths of the Orangemen of this Island. Were you to publish some of the most prominent features of this code you would, no doubt, be accused of the most malicious and extravagant exaggeration. To give your readers some idea of the laws of which the first Orangemen constituted themselves the ministers, I will quote the words of the great and eloquent Edmund Burke. Speaking of the Irish code he says: "It is truly a barbarous system, where all the parts are an outrage on the laws of humanity and the *laws of nature*; it is a system of elaborate contrivance, as well fitted for the oppression, imprisonment, degradation of a people and the debasement of human nature itself as ever proceeded from the perverted ingenuity of man." Sydney Smith says: "So great and so long has been the misgovernment of that country (Ireland) that we verily believe the empire would be much stronger if everything was open sea between England and the Atlantic, and if *skate and codfish* swam over the fair land of Ulster." The same writer says again: "The great misfortune of Ireland is, that the mass of the people have been given up for a century to a handful of Protestants, by whom they have been treated as helots, and subjected to every species of persecution and disgrace. The true state of the case is this, the British Parliament made laws for the government of Ireland which were a disgrace to humanity, and, being unable to execute them, Orangemen constituted themselves the instruments of oppression. Not the whole standing army of Britain, aided by all the iron clad ships afloat, could, in those days, enforce obedience to those laws. I only wonder that they were submitted to for one hour." This, I think, your readers will find to be the true theory of the origin of Orangemen.

It is amusing to see a *liberal* swearing by Sir Archd. Alison. I defy any one who has the least spark of liberalism in his composition to read the works of that historian without being disgusted with the intensity of his toryism. Compared with Sir Archibald our Attorney General is a liberal, and his honor the Speaker an out-and-out radical. With a tenacity truly wonderful, he holds to every exploded theory, and advocates every hoary abuse. He is the contemner of General Education, the opponent of Political Reform and Free Trade, the advocate of Protection, and the disapprover of Catholic Emancipation; in short, he is the champion of old fogyism in all its ramifications. An eminent Edinburgh Reviewer pronounces his last volume to be a book of fallacies. He is certainly a queer authority to be produced by a Liberal on the Catholic Question. So these notorious well known facts, turn out to be, after all, by "A Liberal Protestant's" own confession, disputed points.

One of the great faults that "A Liberal Protestant" finds with the Petition is its intolerant spirit. What is intolerant about it? The memorialists pray that Her Majesty will be pleased to withhold her Royal assent from the Bill to incorporate the Orange Lodges of this Island. Of the prayer of this Petition "A Liberal Protestant" approves; but he doesn't like the way in which this favour is asked. He would deny to the Orangemen the alleged right of incorporation, but he would couch his denial in good set terms. He says to the Orangemen, "I would not grant you this boon, if it were in my gift. I think it impolitic and inexpedient to extend the sanction of Government to the Institution to which you belong; really, ah! eh! I cannot recognise you officially, but since you are fond of the amusement, I will treat you to a dish of abuse of those confounded Papists." I am sure that the Orangemen would be infinitely obliged to our polite politician. They would, no doubt, form a very high estimate of his judgment and his religion. Still, I think I hear a sturdy Orangeman, with a look not at all indicative of good will, bluntly telling him that "fair words butter no parsnips." He would not tolerate Orange Societies, yet he blames the petitioners for saying that Orange Societies are productive of evil wherever they are tolerated. If he considers Orange Societies harmless, whence his opposition? I can see some sense in opposing and discountenancing what I consider an unmitigated evil, but no one but a fool or a capricious tyrant will crush what he believes to be harmless. "A Liberal Protestant" seems dreadfully afraid of members of his party stultifying themselves. I presume that he had not the remotest suspicion that he in his letter to the *Protestant* was furnishing the world with as bright an example of stultification as could be afforded. He makes a mighty fuss about the Liberals doing what he himself would have done in a more offensive manner. It would have been much more to his credit if he had thrown off his mask of gauze, and manfully defended the policy of the Government, and openly advocated the incorporation of Orange Lodges.

He very cunningly, as he thinks, fastens a charge of intolerance on Mr. Coles and the signers of the petition. He finds in that petition the word "tolerate," and makes a tremendous cackling over it. Had the Liberal party petitioned Her Majesty to give the Orangemen a taste of those penal laws and civil disabilities by whose assistance they, at one time, ground down the Irish Catholics, he could not have set up a greater clamor. But the memorialists do not prefer so unreasonable a request. What they say is, that though Orange Societies have been productive of incalculable mischief wherever they have been tolerated by the civil authorities, yet we only ask your Majesty to uphold the majesty of law by withholding your consent from an Act which incorporates a Society that puts itself in the place of law, and which, in certain emergencies, has been known to dispense with law altogether. If the prayer of the Petition be granted, Orangemen will then be in precisely the same situation they now occupy. They will be neither better nor worse off. They will receive exactly the same amount of toleration that is now extended to them. The fun of the thing is, that this is the exact position that "A Liberal Protestant" would keep them in, notwithstanding his senseless prate about intolerance.

That worthy, in his zeal for the cause of Orangeism, invests himself with the mantle of the prophet. He says, in effect, that he *knows* that Orangemen will in future act the part of peaceable citizens. Whence he receives his inspiration it is hard to tell; but as we ordinary and unfavoured mortals have no other means of judging the future but by the past, we see every reason to dread that Orangemen will seize on the flimsiest pretext to inflict injury on their Catholic fellow citizens. Indeed, let any one, whether Orangeman or not, be smitten with the No-Popery disease, and there is no folly and no crime that he is not ready to commit. If history teaches any lesson it teaches this. Though the law and an enlightened public opinion will not permit him to hang Catholic priests, to burn Catholic chapels, or to swear away the lives of his Catholic fellow-citizens, they do not hinder him from annoying Catholics by a narrow-minded proscriptive policy, and from boring his friends and the public by preaching stupid sermons, by making violent speeches, and by writing dreary essays on the fruitful subject of Popery.

"A Liberal Protestant" cannot finish his letter without having a fling at the Roman Catholic religion. This abuse of Catholicism is a luxury in which, in these days, a great many persons indulge. No matter how slender his qualifications, every pigmy politician considers himself in religious controversy more than a match for the combined talent and learning of the whole Roman Catholic Church. Those who never hear but one side of an argument are not the very best judges of its merits; and those who form their conception of a Church from the prejudiced descriptions of its most bitter enemies, will not be likely to possess the most correct idea of its true character. This is precisely the case with the whole herd of Lilliputian controversialists who nauseate the public with their weakened, windy polemics. The greater part of them are about as competent to make a fair statement of the questions in dispute between Catholic and Protestant as a New England soldier is to give a just decision on the merits of the quarrel between the North and South. A little modesty is a most becoming thing. I cannot help thinking it a little presumptuous in a "Liberal Protestant's" pronouncing dogmatically on "questions which the greatest and best informed minds *have at all times* differed (!)—questions on which that Protestant is, perhaps, uninformed, and which he has not made the subject of study." The intense denominationalism which some among us seem bent upon fostering cannot fail of having a bad effect upon the most important interests of the country. Its inevitable tendency is to disturb the harmony and good feeling that should exist among all classes of a Christian community—to substitute a loud advocacy of peculiar tenets for purity of heart, and violent denunciation of those who differ from us for holiness of life; to make us better Protestants and Catholics than Christians. It is a soil much more favourable to the growth of the self-righteousness of the Pharisee and the spiritual pride of the fanatic than to the humility and charity of the true Christian.

Before I close, I must say a word or two by way of protest against the apologetic and detractive manner in which "A Liberal Protestant," charitably supposing him to be really a Liberal Protestant, speaks of Liberal Protestants. He writes of the "honest and well-meaning" among them as if there were not as many honest, well-meaning Liberal Protestants as of any class of politicians on the Island. He stigmatizes this *party*—of the existence of which I had no idea until I read his letter—"as a despised and cringing faction at the heels of priests." This party Judas expects, I suppose, to earn his forty pieces of silver by libelling as respectable and as independent a class of men as this Island can produce. Liberal Protestants, as a class, are far more independent, and much freer from priestly influence than their opponents. Talk of their cringing!! Their stiffness of backbone is the very quality which Tories and bigots most hate, and most fear, and which they punish most severely whenever opportunity offers. They scorn to cringe to priest or minister, to landlord or merchant: can as much be said of the rank and file of the Tory party? So far from feeling ashamed of being associated with such men, I am proud of the connection. He whom the bigots can force to speak with bated breath of his connection with the Liberal party, is no true Liberal. Because forsooth the greater part of the Catholics agree with me in politics I must abandon my principles, and either form a new party on a religious basis or basely desert to the ranks of the enemy! Would not that man make a laughing stock of himself who refused to ride on a certain high road because seven-sixteenths of those who travelled on it professed to be of the Roman Catholic religion? What would be thought of the Church of England soldier who would refuse to fight because his right-hand man was Roman Catholic, his left hand man a deserter, and he in his rear a sceptic? Just as the English soldier recognises as a friend and an ally every one who fights for the liberties of Old England, so every true Liberal will frankly give his hand to any one, whatever his creed, who does battle by his side for the rights and liberties of the people. This attempt to divide the Liberal Party into Protestant and Catholic sections is foolish and inconsistent in the extreme. Politics are the bond of union among Liberals, and not religion. We welcome all to our ranks, even Orangemen, not because they belong to this or that sect, but simply because they are Liberals. We are determined to submit to no ecclesiastical dictation, to cringe at no priest's heels; and while our ranks are recruited from all denominations of Christians, we are resolved to permit favouritism to none.

Apologising for the length of this letter,

I am, &c.

A PROTESTANT.

Prince County, May 25th, 1863.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S DEFENCE OF THE SCHOOL VISITOR!

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Sir:—In the last number of the *Examiner* I read, with some surprise, the speech which the Hon. Attorney General delivered, during the debate on Education, in the Legislative Council, inasmuch as the speech contains sentiments and statements which I consider are unworthy of any gentleman of honor, prudence or independence. Hon. Mr. Palmer is the first person who has attempted to defend the conduct or apologise for the incompetency of the individual who shamefully and notoriously disgraces the office of School Visitor in this Colony. The supporters of the Government, in the Legislature and in the press, have had the decency at least not to deny the charges which have been so frequently made against Mr. John Arbuckle, not only by members of the Opposition, but also by many friends of the Government. But I think it would have been more fortunate for the School Visitor, as well as for the Attorney General's good name, if the speech made by Hon. Edward Palmer had never been spoken or reported. If the elegant orator of the Legislative Council is not on the eve of entering the stage of his second childhood, he surely must regret having given utterance to the words to which I now call public attention, as they only require to be reproduced in order to have them reprobated. In the course of his speech he said: "Fault has been found with the present Visitor for *wasting his time talking politics*; that may or may not be the case; but will any of your honors point out a government officer who is not a politician, or a law to prevent him from being one. I think you will find the reverse, for if there is not a law, there is a rule that no man has a claim to a public office unless he is a politician. I have a dislike to political drones. We live in a free country, and I like to see persons take an interest in the Government of the Colony. It is an understanding that every officer appointed by the Government should sympathise with and take an interest in that Government; and so far as that complaint has been brought against the present School Visitor, I think there is little ground for it. I believe he has been more sinned against than sinning; and I think he has discharged his duty as well as it was possible for *him* to do. I do not hesitate to say that he has strong political feelings; but I do not think it is proper for friends of the Government to make charges against him, for I believe he has contributed as much as any public officer to the success of the Government, and I am not ashamed to say so."

Now, Sir, this language obviously means that the Attorney General believes that all the public officers "waste their time talking politics;" but that they having helped to win the "spoils," have a right to enjoy, undisturbed, their share of the public plunder; and further, that no friend of the Government should censure a public officer, no matter how incompetent or how negligent in performing his duty the officer may be, providing he may have "contributed to the success" of the Government which appointed him. More infamous doctrines concerning the duties and obligations of Government officers than these were never propounded in a Legislative Assembly having the slightest claims to just or enlightened views of civil affairs. Is a Government to forfeit all claims to public confidence and respect, by giving the world reason to believe that its members and officers are no better than a sworn banditti, which gives its gifts only to the most daring and unscrupulous ruffian, who may stoop to the meanest and the foulest deeds, which men of character and real ability would scorn to think of, not to say accomplish? Is a person, once appointed to an office, always to be screened from his guilt, and must no one dare to unmask his ignorance, his stupidity, his hypocrisy, or, it may be, his villainy, because, forsooth, he may have "strong feelings" in favour of his masters?

I think, Sir, that the Hon. Mr. Palmer will get but few persons who will endorse his degenerate views in reference to public officers, as surely we have not lost all spirit of honor and independence so as to agree with him that the officers of a Government should be little better than a pack of public plunderers, "wasting their time talking politics," which should be employed in fulfilling the duties of their respective offices. I think that the truth of the following proposition is so self-evident that most reasonable men will approve of it, that is, when once a man becomes an officer of a public system of education, and paid out of the pockets of all sects and parties, he should cease to be a violent political and sectarian partizan, and should attend to the business for which he was appointed—striving to serve and please all, and the mere tool of none. This proposition should be true of all public officers, but more especially concerning those who are connected with the Educational department. If it be admitted that the high offices of our Educational System are to be given to none but political partizans, we may soon see the same principle enforced in filling the district schools with those only who have "strong feelings" in favor of the Government. But the Hon. Mr. Palmer must have foreseen the evils which would arise from carrying his theories into practice, when he alleged—notwithstanding his previous remarks—that he was not "an advocate for a person in his (Mr. Arbuckle's) standing being a warm politician." Now, the reason for keeping Mr. John Arbuckle in the office of School Visitor is, that he has contributed to the success of the Government party. The means which he employed, as the Hon. Mr. Dingwell described truthfully, were spending his time "lecturing on politics and establishing Orange Lodges." If these services have been so eminent in procuring the "success of the Government," and if he must be rewarded for setting one class of the population against the other, thus promoting bitterness and uncharitableness, can he not draw "the wages of iniquity" in some other way than as being the head officer of the whole educational establishments of this Colony? The Hon. Mr. Palmer admitted that the "office of School Visitor should be filled by a gentleman and a scholar." That Mr. John Arbuckle is either one or the other, it would be the keenest sarcasm to assert; therefore, he should be appointed to some less important office than the one which he disgraces, with a salary sufficient to support him; or, perhaps, it would be better to give him a pension, as it would be nearly impossible to name any public office, above that of Hog Reeve, the duties of which he would be able competently to discharge with any credit to the Colony.

But with all his incompetency there might be some excuse for him, did he show the least zeal in performing the duties of his office. The fact, however, is, that the greater part of his time has been idled away, and many schools in the Island have not been visited for two or three years. That he has shamefully neglected the duties required of him by law, some of the warmest supporters in the Legislative Council could not deny. Said Hon. Mr. Ramsay, "the School Visitor has not done his duty, though it would appear by his Report that he had. I know a school that he has not visited for three years." Hon. Mr. Goff said, he "saw some of the evil effects of schools not being visited. Both the teacher and the trustees became careless." But the redoubtable Sergeant Henderson gave the poor School Visitor "the unkindest cut of all," when, though trying to defend him, he "hoped future Visitors will furnish *good statistics* of the schools, and that they will *actually* visit them," thus insinuating that Mr. Arbuckle's Report was a worthless affair, and that there existed considerable doubts as to the reality of some of his "visitations." The only apology offered as to the cause of so many schools being left unvisited, was that there are more schools in the Colony than the School Visitor could visit in the course of a year. But some of the schools have not been visited, even once in the course of two years, and others not once in three years; besides, the very fact that Mr. Arbuckle had plenty of work to engage his whole time in visiting schools, makes his conduct still more culpable for "wasting his time talking politics," and "establishing Orange Lodges;" and moreover, as it has been reported, further disgracing his position by hawking about Barabas Pope's pamphlets, and serving out bad rum at electioneering booths. There is one statement in Mr. Palmer's speech with which I agree, namely, the statement that Mr. Arbuckle "has discharged his duty as well as it was possible for *him* to do." I do not doubt it, and in another letter I will show that even his last Report contains no information, such as it should contain; that it is full of gross grammatical blunders, affectations, and ridiculously absurd contradictions; and consequently, that to continue a man in the most important, if not the most exalted office in the gift of the Colony, who is so notoriously incompetent and unworthy to fill it, is a damning disgrace to the Government, and an insult to the intelligence of the people.

In the meantime,

I remain respectfully,

P. K. S.

May 23, 1863.

Mr. Wailing,—Will yer prent this for the Decun in yer paper?

Dear Decun,—A man over tu the Post Offis tother day was puttin a letter thro the hole in the wall, jist belo the winder, and sais he aturnin tu me, "I spose "Chuckle-head" will kno I maled this ar letter, fur he amost knoes evere thing about the correspondens agoin on thro the intestionals of this ar Offis." I sais tu him, who on airth does you sinuate by that ar aprobium epitaf, "Chuckle-head." "Why, the Decun," sais he. "What Decun?" I arkst. "Decun——Flibberty Gibbett," sais he. "Aint you ashamed on yourself," sais I, "to implie that ugly gaborkit tu the Decun? He's a burnin lamp an a blazin fine Christian," sais I. "No Sur," sais he, "not a pin's pint is I ashamed of it. Why shud I? It's true as powder and pollywoggs, an sure fact as Ant Sally's got a babie. He's a rale Chuckle-head, and shud be a diggin drains or drivin teams, or choppin wood, or a picken isters, or oakum, or dandelions, or sum other of them fine arts, insted of swettin evere week and perspirin like a nigger, to the sowl purpis of blagarding desent people about ther religin, an makin bad blud, an gittin fights up amung nabors, evere whar, so fur as he kin, the everlastin gooney as he is, and aukard as a two yar old stier. But after all, he's a larfin post, an I never hears him drawlin out his words but I thinks he must be hide-bound, or bin drinkin sour sider, or got the belly inflamables, or swaller'd a dose of stickin plaster, or some other sweet meats; but when I happens to see him a stridin over the squar, I sees at wonce, as it was, a long-leg mash-hen a steppin full stretch over a swomp on a hunt fur a frog. He's a most perticlar pictur of that ar foul. But agin about the letters. I aint exacly sure "Chuckle-head" id jist like tu hev a notice of he's own letters faluted about in the newspapers; no, he wud'nt praps feel percisily cumfortable if I was to arsk him, how it kims of him a sendin them air nots fixed up like bullet duks tu Whilerminar, Zepherlinder, Sofire——, but I won't sai the rest, owin tu the internil spirits of cavelry or nite arantree an fire intu my bussum."

Jist as he finished off, my dander was ris tu go; but he jumpt slap from the platfurm, and skowered awa amost allmity fast, as if he'd seed my boot ris to 45, and got skarred. Well, I thinks tu myself he's jist clared in time, anyhow he's a sasy fellah, and desarvs toe leather, and shud a had his nose drawd; an I had a notion tu do it tu, but didn't, fur I was perticler in this line; it wasn't cause I was afeard myself naterally, but because we was rite slap up agin the Pelise Offis; and them ar fellahs with the City close on might a arsked me into their logins, so I didn't du it; but I jist thot it a kind of respectful and rite to let you kno the perticklers, and whisper in yer ear that the oudacious reducer of yer name an character is O * * * SPOONEY.

(FOR THE EXAMINER.)

Mr. Editor;

Perhaps it may be amusing to your readers to know something about a Secret Society now existing at Saint Peter's Bay, which is styled "The Yellow Orange Society." About four months ago we heard it said in different places that an Orange Society was beginning to be formed at St. Peter's Bay. To this report we gave a deaf ear, considering that our Protestant neighbours would not countenance or support a Society calculated to destroy the harmony existing between Protestants and Catholics. But we are very much deceived in our opinions. We find that some of our Protestant neighbours are Orangemen to the backbone, and have betrayed the confidence placed in them by their Catholic brethren. A notice of some of the individuals composing the Yellow Society will be a sufficient proof of its respectability. These poor deluded sons of Adam are in a destitute state for want of character. They are deprived of their own comfort and self-command by giving countenance and yielding to the intrigues of Orange sycophants. They are collectively and individually more like insane creatures than rational beings. The least and meanest of such persons, composing the Yellow Society, claims to be one of their highest oracles by spouting his ire at Catholics, and scandalizing Catholicity. We are informed Mr. Editor, that this oracle is an excellent marksman, especially at the pig animal creation. Some years ago a neighbouring pig strayed into this Orange oracle's premises: not caring for live pork, he felt resolved to stop the career of his visitor (not by Rat Extermination,) but by powder and shot. It would be advisable for the Government to supply this oracle with British ammunition; if he cannot shoot papists, he can turn the supply into profitable investment in shooting pigs. Here is a specimen of one of the Yellow Secret Society. I would advise the Orange concoctors of the Bye-Laws to have a proviso made relative to the oath as follows: "And I do hereby promise that I shall not shoot my Protestant neighbors' pigs."—Another Orange philanthropist, known as a * * *. By all accounts, this individual is an iron-hearted Orangeman of the first water—puffs up a bluff, sociable face to Catholics, and at the same time would deprive them of their civil and religious rights. It is a fine display of nature to appear very mild and affectionate to Catholic customers. It is very singular that persons who would endeavour to command a people's esteem and regard would lend themselves and take oaths injurious to their Catholic neighbors. I am sure, Mr. Editor, that the irritation felt by some of those Orangemen is very great. What a deplorable position the conductors and complotters of the Orange faction must have placed themselves in, when they consider that they are the instigation of all the trouble and ill-feelings now existing between Catholics and Protestants! Catholics and Protestants heretofore lived in friendship, until the community has been disturbed by Orange Lodges.

Yours, &c.

A PROTESTANT.

Saint Peter's Bay, May 19, 1863.

LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE ASIA.

The R. M. S. *Asia*, after a splendid run of 9¼ days, arrived at Halifax on Monday evening, the 25th ult. The news furnished by the European journals received by this vessel is not wholly devoid of interest.

The assent of the Russian Government to an European Congress for the settlement of the Polish insurrection is not without some significance. Russia is seeking to gain time. In the meanwhile, she is making advances to France; indeed, it is said that the Czar has actually offered, if the Emperor of the French will abandon the cause of Poland, to unite with him in modifying the map of Europe. But here is the difficulty—Great Britain. There are too many ghosts on the road for Louis Napoleon to venture upon it alone. As far as England will go, just so far will Napoleon go, not an inch beyond. The Poles have been defeated in several encounters with the Russians; but as a counterpoise to this, the Poles have won several victories in Lithuania and Samogitia; and a telegram from Cracow announces that an insurrection has broken out in the Ukraine. This is about the sum total of foreign intelligence.

A little difficulty—originating in the fact that the Lord Mayor of Dublin, at the recent presentation of addresses to the Prince and Princess of Wales, had precedence over the Scotch deputation—is likely to engage the attention of Parliament. The Scotch authorities intend to have the question finally settled.

The Report of the Royal Commissioners of the International Exhibition of 1862 has been published. The balance-sheet shows that a small surplus remains in hand.

Stock of the Bank of British North America, 49 to 51.

Distress in the manufacturing districts was on the increase.

Lord Palmerston, in the Commons, had stated that arrangements in connection with the Throne of Greece had not been completed. Mr. Berkeley had signified his intention to introduce a bill for the adoption of "vote by ballot" at elections.

A most disastrous earthquake occurred at Rhodes on the 22nd of April, resulting in the destruction of 2000 houses and a proportionate loss of human life. Two shocks of an earthquake were felt at Alexandria on the same day.

A return has been submitted to Parliament shewing the extent of the growth of Cotton in India, and the exertions making to extend its culture. In January and February 52,000,000 pounds were shipped from Bombay to Europe, the money value of which was nearly £3,000,000.

A large meeting held in Hanover-square Rooms, London, on the 12th inst., adopted a petition to Parliament demanding enforcement of the law against English builders of Confederate cruisers.

In consequence of the long drought the Thames has become offensive.

We regret to learn that Garibaldi is still suffering a great deal from rheumatism, and quite unable to write at all. His friends are anxious for his removal to some watering place or mineral bathing establishment.

Paris, May 15.—The successes obtained at Puebla unhappily were purchased by severe losses. Five officers, among whom is General Laumiere, and 56 privates were killed; add 30 officers and 443 privates wounded. Of the latter, however, 250 only entered the ambulances.—A French Agricultural journal states that the meadows of that country are at present of an unexceptionable beauty, and have not for many years been so advanced at the same period. The alternation of rain and sun have been very favorable, and, if the temperature continues in the same condition, hay-cutting in France may be commenced a month earlier than in preceding years.—From West Africa we learn that the King of Ashantee has invaded the British protected countries on the Gold Coast in consequence of the English authorities having refused to deliver to his Majesty a fugitive native chief. Steps had been taken to repulse the invaders.

Vienna, May 15.—The General Correspondenz of to-day says:—In order to avert an European conflict, Austria intends proposing the adoption of more coercive measures than a Federal execution towards Denmark. The object of those measures will be to guarantee the execution of the stipulations of the London protocols of 1851 and 1852, relative to the succession of the Danish Throne.—The village of Damerham on the borders of Hampshire and Dorsetshire was nearly destroyed all by fire on the 10th inst.

THE POLISH INSURRECTION.

CONSPIRACY AT WARSAW.

Some days ago an order was issued by the Revolutionary Committee that the inhabitants of the Praga suburb, numbering some 12,000 souls, were to remove to another portion of the town. Suspicion being thereby aroused, search was made, leading to the discovery in the evening of workmen occupied in forming a mine beneath the fort upon the right bank of the Vistula, opposite the Citadel. The miners were arrested. They stated, upon interrogation, that upon the 13th of the month, it was intended to blow up the fort, containing a garrison of 800 men, and large stores of Powder. The bridge carrying the Railway accross is to be built up to this fort, and will be commenced in the course of the year. Many reports are in circulation as to what is intended to happen on the 13th, the day when the amnesty expires; but no one knows for certain whence the dreaded blow will be delivered.

The *Ostdeutsche Zeitung* says:—"Upon the 8th inst., 18 companies of Russian infantry, with 8 guns and 5 squadrons of cavalry, attacked Taczanowski, in Ignacewo, near Konin. After a stubborn resistance the assailants succeeded in storming the place, which had been strongly barricaded, and the Poles retreated towards Silesia."

The band of Dzachowski was attacked and beaten on the evening of the 4th of May, near Bontica, in the Government of Radom, north of Opatow; followed up the next day, it was overtaken near Ozcowice, and beaten a second time, with the loss of train, arms, and baggage.

Travellers coming from Ostrowo state that a very sanguinary engagement took place on Tuesday near Kalisch, in which the Russians were said to have been victorious, although they suffered very great loss. Several carts filled with wounded had entered Kalisch.

The department of Justice has declined to co-operate with the Government in carrying out the confiscation decree in Poland, as no law authorising such a measure is in existence.

THE SECRET COMMITTEE AT WARSAW.

Gen. Berg since his arrival at Warsaw has done his utmost to discover the Secret Committee. A fortnight after his assumption of office the Grand Duke asked him if he had been able to discover anything. "Yes," replied the General; "I have acquired the conviction that, with the exception of your Imperial Highness and myself everybody here belongs to the Committee."

FRANCE.

OPERATIONS OF THE FRENCH TROOPS AT PUEBLA.

News from Puebla to the 9th inst., gives details of the operations of the French troops subsequent to the investment of the city on the 23rd March. Upon the 27th March, a bombardment was opened upon Fort Jarvier and the penitentary, which was well fortified, and continued until the 31st, when a breach was made, and the French troops advanced and carried the positions by storming. From there the storming parties pushed on, taking successfully, at the point of the bayonet, two other fortified positions, and presently entered the city. They fought their way through the streets, which were barricaded, and captured the Plaza de Armas and the cathedral, which were strongly fortified. These positions being carried, the Zouaves and soldiers of the 99th Regiment of the Line assisted by the Sappers, made their way through the houses and dislodged the Mexicans, who defended them with great bravery, fighting desperately from house to house. The French loss was reported to have been 150 killed and 500 wounded. General Vernet de Laumiere is among the killed. The only fortified positions the Mexicans now retain are Forts Guadaloupe and Loretto. The attacking force of the French numbered 18,000 men, while the Mexican force was calculated at 25,000 men. General Forey holds the bridge over the Rio Gietro, thus preventing Comonfort, who is on the other side with 12,000 men, from advancing to Puebla.

THE NEW FASHION OF SILK COATS AND BREECHES.

The *Nord* contains the following account of an approaching ball in Paris, at which a serious innovation is to be made in the present style of evening dress:—"The ball at the Hotel Talleyrand Sagan, at which the highest Parisian aristocracy is to assemble, is much spoken of. It is positive that gentlemen will not be admitted except in coats and breeches of varied-coloured silks. It will be a real *fete* of the last century, and will evidently be much more elegant than the mass of coats deplorably black. It is incontestable that the custom of wearing mourning-colour at festivals is not decidedly pleasant to the eye."

PRUSSIA.

COLLISION BETWEEN THE CHAMBER AND THE MINISTRY.

At the sitting of the Chamber of Deputies on Tuesday the President read a letter signed by the Ministers, stating that so long as the House supports the assumption made by the President, of a right to limit the Minister's freedom of speech, the members of the Cabinet should no longer be present at the sittings of the Chamber. The Ministers require a declaration from the Deputies that the House has no disciplinary authority over the members of their body. The letter of the Ministers was referred to a special committee, which has summoned all the Ministers to appear before it. Herr Von Bismarck-Schonhausen has replied, however, for himself and his colleagues, declining to appear. He referred the committee to the explanations contained in his letter, which, he said, rendered any participation of the Ministers in the debates utterly impossible.

The Judicial Committee of the Chamber has authorised the prosecution of the Polish members Dzialynski and Guttrys.

SPAIN.

TROUBLES OF THE PRIME MINISTER—A STORMY SCENE IN THE SENATE.

The Spanish Prime Minister, the Marquis of Miraflores, seems to have a troublesome time of it in the Cortes. Anxious to pass through his Ministerial existence undisturbed by internal events or by personal rivalries at home, he recommended, in his opening speech, the practice of mutual indulgence and of reconciliation between the faction leaders. The consequence is that the legislators have been quarrelling ever since, and after a fashion not likely to exalt the dignity of the Spanish Parliament in the eyes of the public. During the debate in the Senate a few days ago, a violent altercation took place between General Narvaez and General Prim. The Marquis of Miraflores interfered between the belligerents, and with tears in his eyes besought them to sacrifice their personal animosities "on the altar of their country."

HOLLAND.

A DUTCH WARNING TO THE RUSSIANS.

The Government of Holland has followed the course taken by the three Powers upon the Polish question. This is the more worthy, as in 1831 Holland declined to associate herself with diplomatic intervention in Poland. The policy of Holland is strictly conservative. She has herself suffered from revolution, which cost her half her territory. She abstains from political partizanship, and her King is the son of a Russian Grand Duchess. The adhesion of this Government to the Western Powers must be regarded rather as an act of warning than of hostility towards Russia.

The Suez Canal.—The French Government papers are in a state of great exasperation at the publication in the *Courrier du Dimanche* of a despatch from Aali Pacha, Turkish Minister for Foreign affairs, condemning in the strongest terms the Suez Canal scheme.

THE CIVIL WAR IN THE STATES.

IMPORTANT NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

St. John, May 25.

An arrival at New York from New Orleans brings intelligence of the bombardment of Port Hudson on the nights of 8th, 9th, and 10th inst. The Federal vessels were not injured, but the result is not stated. Good news is promised soon.

All the Colored regiments in Bank's department have been turned over to General Ullman, in addition to those under the command of the latter. There are 2500 recruits in camp.

Ullman would proceed immediately to organize Corps d'Armee, under white officers.

Accounts of Gen. Grant's operations do not differ from the Confederate reports. He is believed to be master of the situation.

It is reported that the Army of the Potomac has changed its line, before Fredericksburg, to a point more convenient for the protection of Washington City. General Hooker's headquarters are at present 7 miles nearer the Capitol. It is also stated that Hooker has been fully reinforced.

Official report from Capt. Pennock, of Mississippi Squadron, dated 20th, reports his capture of Haines' Bluff on the 18th, enemy evacuating the place, leaving immense armament uninjured. Pennock blew up the magazine and destroyed the works generally. He opened communication with Grant, whose forces were advancing on Vicksburg, and supplied them with provisions. Alsosent gunboat up Yazoo to destroy Confederate navy yard and stores.

Grant closely invested Vicksburg, which could hold out but few hours. Port Hudson must follow, and the Mississippi to open its entire length. Enemy beaten at all points. Federal forces behaved splendidly.

Latest from Gen. Grant.—Gen Johnson being at Calhoun, 17 miles north of Jackson, with 60,000 men, endeavoring to effect a junction with Gen. Pemberton at Edward's Station, Grant being reinforced, attacked and drove him into his entrenchments on Big Black River.

Gen. Banks in private letter expresses expectation that Louisiana would soon be ready to re-enter the Union as a Free State.

Tribune's despatch says deserters report Confederate army in good condition, and about to attack Hooker to compel him to change his base. Confederate papers despondent on situation of Vicksburg.

North Carolina Standard, Gov. Vance's organ, strongly denounces President Davis, and repudiates suggestion of giving him dictatorial powers; North Carolina will neither be slaves of Lincoln nor Davis.

Flour 10c a 25c lower. Gold 145¼.

St. John, May 26.

The city was not then taken, though the Federals had gained great advantages. The Confederates were making a firm resistance. Grant completely commanded the town and had succeeded in planting his colors on the enemy's outworks. Some of his troops were within a mile of the Court House. He had captured thus far six thousand men and 64 cannon. It was supposed the city would be taken by Saturday night. The Monitors and gun boats were in front.

A Murfreesboro' despatch to the Herald says there were indications that large bodies of Confederate cavalry had gone to the Southward, and that Breckinridge had fallen back.

Vallandigham was being conveyed to the Confederate lines; only a single private received him.

in Guerillas were in possession of two towns Missouri.

St. John, May 27.

Reports of large Confederate forces on East Tennessee are said to be much exaggerated. They are principally collected in Wayne County, Kentucky, under Generals Wheeler and Morgan.

The reported reinforcements to General Buckner from Virginia are unreliable.

A despatch from Washington to the New York Post says that it was reported the Confederate pickets on the Rappahannock, on Monday last, admitted that Vicksburg had been captured by the Federals. No later intelligence from Vicksburg had been received by the Washington Government up to 10 o'clock last night. It is reported that despatches have been received stating that another line of defences have been discovered in rear of Vicksburg, which will require to be taken by storm. A special despatch to the Mobile Register says that the latest news from Vicksburg up to Thursday night last was that the loss in the recent engagement was trifling to the Confederates, and that the garrison was confident of being able to hold the place.

President Lincoln, the Secretary of War, Halleck, and Gen. Hooker, were in council yesterday for several hours.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, June 1st, 1863.

THE GENERAL ELECTION IN NOVA SCOTIA.

It is a good Christian precept which enjoins humility in victory when victory has been nobly won, and when that victory has been sanctified by the best and purest principles. We sincerely trust this precept will influence the conduct of the victors in the Nova Scotia contest, just concluded, and that they will regard their triumph with honest pride, but without vain-glorious boasting. In adding our humble congratulations to theirs, we do so because their success concerns not alone themselves and their country, but affects the cause of civil and religious liberty everywhere, and gives assurance that intelligence and common sense have exercised their influence in a memorable manner, where bigotry and intolerance lately darkened the political horizon. Apart from this general consideration, our own rejoicing would be, in a great measure, subdued by old recollections—by a remembrance of the happy time when the chiefs of the party now overthrown battled valiantly for every political principle we hold dear—long before their followers had learned to infuse the poison of religious bigotry into those generous thoughts with which people of every class and creed were regarded as forming one common brotherhood.

A more happy political family could be found nowhere than was presented by the alliance of the Liberal Protestants and Catholics of Nova Scotia down to about the time of the Crimean war in 1855. Mr. Howe went on a recruiting expedition to the United States, in the hope of getting brave soldiers for the army that had been cruelly decimated by the bloody struggle then waged in Northern Europe. For some reasons we never could adequately comprehend, a portion of the Irish people, on both sides of the Atlantic, were bitterly opposed to England in that struggle. Those who especially distinguished themselves by their opposition were called the Young Ireland Party; and the followers of that party in Halifax wrote and said many foolish things about Mr. Howe's recruiting expedition. Mr. Howe denounced the sentiments of the Young Irelanders