FRAGMENTS OF NOTES OF THE SESSION.

CONTEMPLATED UNION OF THE COLONIES.

Monday, 18th April, 1864.

(Continued from our last No.)

Hon. Mr. COLES said, the subject, as the Hon Colonial Secretary had justly remarked, was not a party question; but he presumed there would be—as was the case with all other questions a party in favor of it, and a party opposed to it. The hon. gentleman who had last spoken had broadly hinted at the insecurity of property in the Island; but he (Hon. Mr. Coles) believed no measure had ever been introduced into the Legislature so calculated to interfere with the rights of property as the Bill on the Land Question, submitted by the Hon. the Leader of the Government. It was nothing, however, but a political clap-trap, the subject of the war in the neighbouring States had been introduced into the Debate, and the Committee had been told that, when it terminated, a host of mercenaries would be ready to rush in upon these Colonies. He, however, entertained no fears, on that score; for he had every confidence in the will and power of Great Britain to defend her possessions against the armies of either the Northern or Southern States, and even against the combined forces of both sections. The Hon. the Leader of the Government had said he could not support a Resolution similar to the Resolutions passed by the Legislatures of the adjoining Provinces—namely, that delegates should be appointed to arrange a preliminary plan for a union of the three Maritime Provinces. He concurred with the hon gentleman in that view of the question: It was the duty of the Island Legislature to consider first whether or not a union was desirable at all. He had his own opinions respecting a Union of the Colonies. He had long thought that the Provinces ought to have more influence than they had at the Colonial Office. This Island, and indeed all the other North American Colonies, had laboured under great disadvantages in that respect—disadvantages which probably a union of the whole would have obviated. Still, however, it did not appear to him that great benefit would result from a union of the three Maritime Provinces. Small as the Colony of Prince Edward Island is, it has been making progress. I hold in my hand, continued the hon. gentleman, an order of the date of 1790, for 1s, which is a fair specimen of the Island currency at that time. Now we have two or three banks, and an extensive trade; so I think we had better work along with our seperate Government, until it shall be thought that "the time is arrived" to consummate a Federal union of the whole of British America, allowing each Colony to retain its own Legislature. If this could be effected with the good will of the Home Government—Britain acting towards us in a friendly and parental manner, just as a father does with a son setting up for himself—it might be for the good of all. The new government might be either a monarchy or a republic; but, for my part, I would prefer a monarchy. All the Colonies united, from Newfoundland to Columbia, would form one of the most powerful governments on the face of the earth; but were Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and this Island only to be united, we should still be looked down upon by our neighbours. I do not think the people of this Island would agree to such a union as is contemplated: If they were to consent to a change at all, they would, he believed, have such a union as would place the Colonies in a position that would give them some weight with the powers that be. The religous animosity and strife, which unfortunately exists in the Colony, afford an argument for our union with the other two Maritime Provinces, as has been asserted by the Hon. Colonial Secretary, is what I do not admit. If people are disposed to be contentious about creeds, a union with another body of men will not prevent it. In fact, I believe, the religious strife which exists in the Island was, at first, caught as a sort of infection from the other Provinces. It occurs to me that this proposed Union Delegation will be like the one on the Land Question; it will cost several hundred pounds, and produce nothing. I do not know that I shall oppose the motion for the appointment of Delegates; but I would prefer taking higher grounds than a Legislative union of the three Maritime Provinces. We might gain, in some points, by such a union; but the other Colonses are burthened with heavy debts, and I am inclined to believe we would get along just as well without being connected with them. The question should be considered solely on its own merits, altogether irrespective of what is taking place in the neighbouring states, or in any other country; and I hope hon. members will take no hasty view of the matter. We might, to some extent, be committing ourselves to a union by the mere appointment of a delegation.

Hon. Mr. MCAULAY: It is true, that by passing the Resolution before the Committee, we shall be ackgowledging that a Union may possibly be desirable; but the Resolution itself *is so* carefully worded as to guard against our being committed by it to any course which might result in our destruction. A union of the three Maritime Provinces came from the other Provinces; and it would be uncourteous in us not to send delegates to meet the delegates whom they may appoint; but certainly we ought to wait until we hear the report of those delegates before we pronounce an opinion as to whether it would be desirable for this Colony to enter into the proposed union or not. For my own part, I would rather hear arguments against the union than in favor of it; because I think it has much to recommend it. The suggestion is better to endure the ills we know than to expose ourselves to those with which we are unacquainted. If we were to be united with the other Provinces, we should have to raise money here for revenues to be divided by other hands. Supposing even that there should be a territorial division of the money, we would scarcely be allowed to obtain our share, as the other Provinces would maintain that their railways were, in part, for our advantage as well as theirs. Another consideration is that our roads in this Island are not as durable as the roads in Nova Scotia, and consequently it would require more to keep them in repair—a necessity which the United Legislature might not be willing to admit. The religious agitation existing in the Island had been referred to as affording an argument in favor of the contemplated union, but it is very doubtful that strife would cease—even should the community be enlarged. I have never taken any part in the religious agitation; but I have felt its effects ever since I first offered myself as a candidate for a seat in this House. It is an evil which the Union of the Provinces would not eradicate from the minds of the people. It will not wholly cease until a sense of shame shall put an end to it. There is one point which especially requires consideration before entering into any details of a Union. It is this: Would this Colony be allowed to retain a representation of 30 members in the Lower House of the United Legislature? and would Nova Scotia and New Brunswick be also allowed to retain the same representation as at present? If our representation were to be diminished, and theirs to continue as now, I conceive it would be doing our Island an injustice. This is a matter for the delegates to consider. I shall support the Resolution, because the delegates, whom it authorizes His Excellency to appoint, are not to be empowered to decide in any matter, but merely to hear suggestions, and to report to this Legislature.

Mr. CONROY: This question was partially discussed here last Session, and on that occasion there was a general expression of opinion against a Union of the Colonies. I believe I was the only member who spoke in favour of it; and my reason for doing so was one assigned by the Hon. the Col. Secretary, namely, that it might be a means of allaying the religious animosity existing in the Island. I have weighed the matter since then, and now think that this animosity affords no argument in favor of a Union, but rather the reverse. What have the other Colonies to give us in return for our Legislature, if it be taken away from us? Nothing, unless they should be able to assist us in settling our Land Question. If they could give our people free land as an equivalent for depriving us of our Constitution, it would be something; but as the Bill which was introduced this morning will most probably be passed, I cannot see what we are to gain by a Union. At the meeting which my colleagues and I had with our constituents before we came to the opening of the Session, the subject of the Union of the Colonies was discussed; and they desired us to vote against it, should it come up for consideration in this House, as it might, if it be brought about, place the Colony in a worse position than it occupies at present.

Hon. Mr. LONGWORTH, in speaking to the question, delivered himself, in substance, as follows: The Legislatures of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick had, he said, it appeared, from their having adopted Resolutions to appoint delegates to arrange a preliminary plan for a Union of the three Maritime Provinces, come to the conclusion that such a Union is expedient. The question was one which had been discussed for a length of time. After having explained the reasons why the Union of Canada with the three Maritime Provinces is not now immediately contemplated — why both Upper and Lower Canada are averse to it—the hon. gentleman observed, "Hence a new scheme of Union has arisen, and it is proposed that the three Maritime Provinces alone shall unite. It is argued that, from their proximity and similarity of interests, they should be united under one Legislature; and that, to give us of these Colonies standing and respectability in the scale of governments, such a Union is necessary. It is not contemplated to alter our connection with the Mother Country, but merely to make us a larger dependency of the British Crown. As we are peculiarly situated in this Island, I think it would be imprudent in us to pass such a Resolution as they have agreed to in the other Provinces. They, no doubt, feel that the advantages would be on their side; and, therefore, they had not hesitated to adopt such a Resolution as has been referred to. They anticipate no danger to their interests from taking little Prince Edward Island under their wing. We are not burthened with the same proportionate amount of debt as the adjoining Colonies; consequently, although we might hesitate to decide as to the expediency of a Union, they at once commit themselves to the course. They have nothing to lose; for as they have more railways to construct, their debt must go on increasing." The hon gentleman then alluded to and particularized the railways being at present projected in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and the scheme likely to be realized, of opening up a great railway road through Canada and New Brunswick to Halifax. "These undertakings," he observed, "must involve a large amount of expenditure, and entail upon the Provinces of Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia a large amount to their public debts, and, as a necessary consequence, an increased taxation upon the people of those Provinces respectively. The local railways must be built at the expense of the Provinces to which they belong, and the international at the joint expense of the three. The question now arises, as these works are to be contructed for the benefit of those Provinces, and independently of us, what advantage are we to derive from a union with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick that we do not now enjoy in our present position? As an agricultural country, we must benefit by the construction of these works in supplying food to the labourers and employees upon them, and also in supplying them, to some extent, with horses, cattle, and other productions of our Island; but that is an advantage which we will enjoy whether we enter into the Union or maintain our independent condition. The hand of nature in giving us so fruitful a soil and so salubrious a climate, has secured that advantage to us independent of all political or national considerations; and, in our present position, we enjoy comparative freedom from taxation. These are facts which we must not lose sight of, and before we are prepared to yield up our local Legislature, and the right of taxing ourselves for our local purposes and improvements, and no other, besides all the other advantages which our independent position as a separate Colonial Government confers upon us, we must see that we are to receive larger and more permanent advantages—in fact an equivalent for what we are called upon to surrender. The question, then, as has been already remarked, is—What are we going to gain by such a Union? Should it cause a subsidence of religious animosities and jealousies, that might be something in the scale; but there is very little reason to expect such a result from the Union, seeing it is a matter entirely among ourselves. It is no boon which the other Colonies can offer; it is only an effect which might arise out of the Union. It appears to me that they can scarcely offer us an equivalent for our independent position; and hence I consider that the Resolution proposed by the hon. the Leader of the Government is the only one we can safely adopt. We must not commit ourselves to the Union, as the other Colonies, by their Resolutions, appear to have done. We should first consider the expediency of a Union; but before we can be *in a position to do so*, we must hear the arguments and reasons which may be offered in support of it; and therefore it is our duty to appoint delegates: to refuse to do so would be uncourteous to our sister Provinces. Besides, we cannot lose by obtaining information upon all colonial questions which may have a tendency to effect us as a government or a people. But, while we appoint delegates, we must not tie up our hands and commit ourselves to a Union without knowing what equivalent we are to receive." The hon. gentleman, after having spoken of the practical difficulty which, were the Union to be effected, would have to be experienced by us in sending our Representatives across our ice-bound Strait in winter, to attend the United Legislature in Halifax, or in some other favored city on the other side of the water—unless Charlottetown were made the capital of the United Provinces, which it could not be expected to be—concluded thus: "The question is, then, should we give up our independent position—our separate Government—and become a part of a greater Province? My own impression is decidedly in the negative, but the question can only be satisfactorily answered when we shall have ascertained the terms of Union, which it would be the duty of delegates if appointed, to learn, therefore, I will support the Resolution before the Committee authorizing such appointment, reserving to ourselves, as a Legislature, our own action hereafter upon the results of that Delegation."

Hon. Mr. HENSLEY said that whilst acknowledging that the Resolution did not pledge the House to an approval of a Union of the Lower Provinces, he could not but admit also that, wide as the scope was which the debate was taking, it was still within the bounds of legitimate discussion. With respect to the civil war which had so long raged in the neighbouring Republic, and the probable consequences to this Island of a termination of that war, he would not venture to make any surmises; but he would say that he could see no special reason to apprehend an invasion of this Colony by the disengaged forces of the States on the cessation of their internecine warfare. That question he was willing to leave to the better qualified judgment of the hon. the Leader of the Government and his honor the Speaker, they being both military men. The extensive land frontier of Canada justified the Imperial authorities in urging upon its Government the propriety and necessity of that great dependency's taking measures for its own protection against hostile incursions; but nothing had as yet transferred, he believed, indicative of any intention on the part of the mother country to abandon her Colonial possessions. The naval power of Great Britain, said the hon. and learned gentleman, is our best protection; and, in the event of an invasion of these Provinces by the United States, it would, I doubt not, be as available for our defence as ever it has heretofore been. With reference to the suggested Union, I cannot, I must confess, foresee the advantages to be derived from it by this Colony. Still, I think it but reasonable to appoint a Delegation, if for no other reason than that the question may be discussed in all its bearings. I cannot but consider that an almost insuperable objection to the proposed Union will be found in the difficulty of any Island Representatives attending in the winter season, in a Parliament to be convened in either Nova Scotia or New Brunswick. When Dr. Tupper, in Nova Scotia, urged that union with Canada was not desirable, on the ground that his country would not have an equal number of Representatives in the Legislature, I would have liked to have asked him whether Nova Scotia or New Brunswick would be prepared to admit us to an equal voice in the deliberations of the associate Lower Colonies. Although the Union between Upper and Lower Canada was arranged on the basis of each Colony s having an equal number of Representatives, it is now sought by the latter to regulate the representation according to population. In view of this fact, what guarantee have we that, after having cast in our lot with our neighbours on the principle of numerical equality of representation, we may not thereafter have that principle abrogated? I see many difficulties of a practical nature in the way of this projected union, in addition to those which have been referred to. The rate of taxation would require to be adjusted with reference to our financial condition, as distinct from those of the other Provinces. The holding the winter terms of our Supreme Court would afford matter for serious consideration, for it could hardly be expected that the Judges would cross the Straits in an ice boat. While such questions as these are present to my mind, I shall vote for the Resolution which has been submitted, as being so cautiously worded that it commits members to nothing but the sanctioning of a Delegation by whom the subject may be discussed, and our ultimate action can afterwards be decided upon.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, June 27, 1864.

LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.

By the "Heather Belle," on Thursday night we received the English mail, which reached Halifax on the previous day (Wednesday) in the R. M. S. *Africa*. Liverpool dates are to the 11th instant. The new Lieut. Governor of Nova Scotia, Sir Richard G. M'Donnell, accompanied by his Lady, came passengers in the *Africa*. His Excellency was sworn in as Lieutenant Governor immediately after his arrival. Some of the English papers state that the health of the Duke of Newcastle, late Colonial Minister, had become so precarious as to give rise to the most serious apprehensions.

The following extracts furnish all the British and Foreign news of any interest or importance.

The Queen had returned to Windsor from Balmoral Castle.

The Conference re-assembled on the 9th in Downing Street. The Danish plenipotentiaries consented to an extension of the armistice for two weeks, but the German representatives demurred to such an arrangement. After some discussion, however, the proposed extension was unanimously agreed to.

The Government has so far recognised the great merits of the "windage" gun invented by Mr. James Mackay, of Liverpool, as to determine to remove the weapon from Crosby to Shoeburyness, where it will be submitted to a series of official tests.

The Government of India has granted to the Countess of Elgin an annual pension of £1000 in consideration of the great services rendered by the Earl as Viceroy, and in sending troops from China to Calcutta to quell the mutiny. The consent of Parliament to this grant is not necessary.

La France attaches considerable importance to the complete rupture of diplomatic relations between the Roman Court and that of Russia, consequent on the withdrawal of Ambassador Kisseloff, and its notification to Minister Antonelli by his deputy De Mayendorf.

The Paris correspondent of the Morning Post says:—"There appears to be a strong party at Copenhagen which is of opinion that it would be wise to give up Holstein and the German districts of Schleswig now that Denmark has no hope of of obtaining foreign aid; but there is a strong objection to accepting the German propositions."

According to a Hamburg paper, the Emperor of Russia has protested against any attack by Germany upon the integrity of Denmark. In the event of no attention being paid by Austria and Prussia to this protest, the Court of St Petersburg will exercise its right and reclaim a part of Holstein, in which Kiel is included. A telegram from Berlin, however, says that the Czar has transferred to the house of Oldenburg all the rights of the Imperial family to the Holstein succession. This circumstance is looked upon as unfavourable to the claims of the Prince of Augustenburg.

The financial state of Denmark is very naturally awakening some anxiety amongst moneyed men in Copenhagen.

It is stated that overtures have been made by France and England with a view to bring about a cessation of hostilities in America. The precise nature of the suggestions has not transpired, nor is it unofficially known whether the overtures have been made through the ordinary channels.

Impressions upon the public mind of France continue to vary as to the prospects of a settlement of the Danish question. At this particular juncture pacific hopes appear to be in the ascendant; but all classes of people labour under the impression that great and eventful issues depend upon the termination of the Conference. The *Temps* designates the present period as "a moment of solemn expectations," and points to the anxiety that prevails throughout Europe as an indication of the universal apprehension that the renewal of war between the Danes and the Germans may lead to an outbreak of hostilities throughout the continent.

The conduct of Spain with respect to Peru is severely critised by the French journals, which point out that Spain has never recognised the Peruvian republic, and has always refused to hold any diplomatic communication with the country unless by means of agents of a secondary character. There was no pretence whatever for the seizure of the Chinca Islands, and Spain was merely seeking a pretext for a rupture with a view to gratify her desire for conquest and annexation.

The *Voix de St. Petersburg*, which has on former occasions written against the sovereignity of King George in Greece, has just published an article which represents Athens as the scene of revolts and disturbances, and the whole kingdom as in a state of disorganization and anarchy. The correspondent of the *Daily News*, however, writing from Athens, declares those representations to be false, and adduces certain facts to show that the King is popular, that the country is becoming tranquilised, and that the finances are in a rapidly improving condition.

The war in St. Domingo is producing disastrous results in Spain. In addition to the slaughtered, no less than 11,000 sick and wounded Spaniards have been sent home, whose places must be replenished by a larger corps, if Spain would reduce the insurgents to submission. The drain upon the public exchequer, and upon the most valuable portion of the population, is one which Spain is little able to bear, especially in view of the new complication in which the indiscretion of a naval officer has involved her in Peru.

In the House of Lords, on the 6th, the Lord Chancellor read two messages from the Crown. The first expressed her Majesty's desire to grant to Sir Rowland Hill the sum of £20,000 in recognition of his important services in devising and carrying out important reforms in postal administration; and the second message recommended the House to grant to the Countess of Elgin an annuity of £1,000, in recognition of the public services performed through a long series of years by the late Earl.

As an incident in the changes which are impending, may be mentioned the certainty that Mr. Gladstone will offer his services, at the next election, to the voters of South Lancashire. He cannot have taken this deep plunge without due consideration. A mind like Mr. Gladstane's must have deeply pondered upon such a step. In giving up Oxford for the most important commercial and manufacturing constituency in the kingdom, he is severing himself from the Liberal-Conservative party, with which he has acted since the commencement of his public life, to indentify himself more immediately with the Manchesterschool, or as it is more usually termed, the Radical party. Between Oxford and its present brilliant representative, the estrangement has been gradually going on since he first showed symptoms of mar hing with the times.

The Government met with a severe defeat, on the 6th, in the House of Commons, when it proposed a vote for the erection of a new National Gallery at the back of Burlington Gardens. A majority of fifty-two in a House of less than four hundred members, is a striking proof either of the unpopularity of the Chief Commissioner of Works or of Lord Palmerston, or both. The total estimate was £150,000, but only £15,000 a year was asked for, and this was refused. In the division list may be found as many Reformers as Conservatives. As a set-off, however, to this ungraciousness may be mentioned the liberality of the Crown and the House, in granting to Sir Rowland Hill the sum of £20,000 for the great services he has rendered to the cause of Postage Reform.

BERLIN, June 10.—the Emperor and Empress of Russia arrived yesterday evening at Potsdam. They were received at the railway station by the King of Prussia. A grand review was held this morning in the Temple of Field. Their Majesties will leave for Darmstadt to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

PARIS, June 10.—The *Presse* of this evening states that the third division of the Austrian fleet will be sent immediately to the North Sea. The *Pays* believes itself enabled to state that the English Conservative party has decided upon bringing the present Cabinet to account relative to the whole of its acts since the commencement of the Dano-German conflict. It will also, continues the *Pays*, openly, solemnly, and unanimously declare that the only gaurantee and the only safeguard of peace remains in the general Congress proposed by the Emperor Napoleon. The *Nord* states that Russia will not send a new minister to Rome, and that the connection between the two Courts will be confined simply to the despatch of business having no particular character.

PARIS, June 10.—The *Moniteur* of this evening says:—The Plenipotentiaries of the belligerent Powers at the London Conference have agreed to meet in order to amicably settle, under the auspices of one of the representatives of the neutral powers, the disputed points relative to the carrying out of the armistice. The French Plenipotentiary has been chosen for this work of conciliation. The *Moniteur* further announces that the Shah of Persia has resolved to send 20,000 men against the Turkomans of Astrahad, who are continually ravaging the province of Mazanderan.

The *Augsburg Gazette* gives the text of the proposal of mediation made by England at the sitting of the Conference on May 25. It concludes by suggesting that if the King of Denmark consent to the sacrifices demanded of him, justice requires that the independence of his kingdom shall be guaranteed by the great European Powers. The proposition was also made by England that South Schleswig should not be annexed to Holstein without the consent of the inhabitants.

RUSSIA.—The Russian Ambassador has been recalled from Rome. This event has caused some sensation, as people connect it with the recent allocution of the Pope, in which Poland was alluded to in terms likely to offend Russian susceptibilities.

GREECE.—A frightful explosion of a powder mill occurred in Corfu. Fifty buildings were destroyed, including the hospital, custom-house, fort, and factories. The loss of life is enormous. 90 soldiers were killed, 30 wounded, and 28 missing; 47 civilians were killed and 200 wounded.

"ILLICIT TRADING"—THE QUEEN vs. JAMES CAMPBELL.

AMONGST the several cases which engaged the attention of the Supreme Court, during its last Term at St. Eleanor's, none created so much excitement as the one to which we briefly alluded in our last, namely, the Queen *vs.* James Campbell for illicit trading. The action was brought by Information, filed by the Attorney General, and therefore did not require the intervention of the Grand Jury. The facts are as follow. In November last the Mail Steamer landed at Summerside wharf, with sundry merchandize for other parties, two pipes of alcohol for Mr. J. Campbell, all of which were put under the care of the Preventive Officer. Mr. Campbell sent his truckman for the alcohol, and received it, with the understanding that the pipes should be gauged on the following morning, the gauger being then absent. Mr. Campbell having two establishments—one at St. Eleanor's and one at Summerside—sent one pipe of the alcohol to the former place, and kept the other at the latter. The one left at Summerside was gauged on the day of landing — the other was not. On the following morning the Collector — Mr. Charles Green—started for St. Eleanor's—saw Mr. Campbell there, and demanded to know by what authority he, Campbell, sent the pipe of alcohol to St. Eleanor's without being gauged. The Collector did not then prefer any charge of smuggling against Campbell. The latter replied, that not being able to get the pipe gauged at Summerside, owing to the temporary absence of the gauger, he had sent it to St. Eleanor's with the permission of the Preventive Officer, who was also Warehousekeeper, promising that it should be gauged next day. Campbell then shewed the Collector the article as it was delivered in his cellar—tendered him about three times the amount of duty as security, and engaged the next day to bring the gauger from Summerside at his (Campbell's) expense, so as to have the article gauged rather than have any trouble about it. The Collector would not comply with this arrangement. Campbell, the Collector contended, should send the article to Summerside to have it gauged there, or run the risk of being held accountable for smuggling. This, Campbell refused to do, and locked up his cellar with the alcohol therein; he shortly after opened it, when the Collector, having failed to get any one to assist him in removing the cask, drew the contents off in small vessels, removed it to Summerside, and there sold it at auction as smuggled goods—paid, or alleged to have paid to himself, the duty from the proceeds of the sale, and pocketed about thirty pounds surplus money. The cask left in Campbell's store at Summerside was not seized by the Collector—it was landed at the same time as the other—delivered to its owner at the same time—it was not entered any more than the other was, *because the practice hitherto had been* NOT *to enter goods landed from the Steamers at Summerside.* Such a thing as getting a written or printed Permit for the landing of merchandise was never known there in similar cases,—a verbal Permit from the Preventive Officer was all that was required by custom, and Mr. Campbell had obtained that.

Mr. Campbell, feeling that great injustice had been done to him by the Collector, laid his case before the Government by Memorial, supported by affidavits. Some correspondence was the result, but Campbell got no redress; and it appearing to him that he was not likely to get any, he commenced an action for damages against the Collector. Thus matters stood until the first of May last, when Mr. Campbell was notified by the Attorney General that he intended to file an Information against him at the suit of the Crown for landing goods contrary to law. He did so. The Case came on for trial in the late Term. The Attorney General appeared for the Crown—Messrs. Hensley and Charles Palmer for the Traverser. The Attorney General contended, in opening the case, that although Mr. Campbell might not have *intended to do an improper act*, still the landing of the goods in the way effected was contrary to law. The practice, he argued, of goods never being entered at Summerside, nor formal Permits obtained for the landing of them, did not justify Mr. Campbell's proceeding. The law, he said, had been violated, and justice required a victim. As Mr. C. had not established the practice referred to, his Counsel eloquently contended that it would be unjust to select him as the victim. The Collector himself proved on oath that the universal custom was to land goods at Summerside precisely as Mr. Campbell had landed his alcohol. The learned Chief Justice, taking the same view of this point as the Counsel for the defence, and in view of the Collector's evidence as to the universality of the custom, on the second day of trial ruled that the count in the Information for illegal landing should be set aside. This was the only material count in the Information—all the others, though numerous enough, had relation to it; and the Attorney General, finding himself foiled in his efforts to convict the defendant, *graciously* said he would not press the other counts in the Information. His Lordship the Chief Justice then offered some observations on the case, which he said he was surprised to see brought into Court in the present state of the law, and directed the Jury to acquit the defendant—a direction which they promptly obeyed without leaving the box.

The above are the facts which we glean from the notes before us. We cannot enter into the spirit of the comments with which they are plentifully garnished, not being under the same excitement as the good people of Summerside and St. Eleanor's appear to have been at the time of the trial. We cannot, however, but agree with our reporter, that the whole proceeding furnishes evidence of deep-rooted malice in the mind of the Collector against Campbell—that the exposure and ignominious defeat of his plans is a very proper punishment for him—that the Government has disgraced itself by becoming a party to such an action—and that Mr. Campbell's private action for damages against the Collector is immensely strengthened through the folly of his opponents.

MUSIC FOR THE PUBLIC.—The City Amateur Band, under the direction of Mr. W. Dougan, played some of their most favourite airs on the Hillsborough Square, on Monday evening last. The entertainment lasted for more than an hour, and attracted a large crowd of persons from all parts of the City, including all ranks and conditions. Some of the boys were, for a time, very noisy and troublesome, there being none of the Police Officers in attendance,—an over-sight which will not occur again, we hope, on any future similar occasion. On Thursday evening the Volunteer Band, under the direction of Mr. R. Galbraith, followed the example of the Amateur Band, and played on the same Square for one hour—the music again attracting a large gathering. It is very praiseworthy in those Bands to give their services thus gratuitously for the amusement of their fellow citizens on the only Square which can now be used for the purposes of recreation and exercise; and this is more particularly so on the part of Mr. Dougan's Band, which has never yet received any patronage or encouragement from the public; while the other Band has been liberally supported by private donations; and has received, we believe, no small allowance from the Parliamentary fund annually voted for the Volunteer Service. We are not sorry to see the Volunteer money going in that direction—better to give it to the Volunteer Band than to useless Drill Sergeants; and we hope the public will learn to appreciate the other Band, which has had many difficulties to contend with, by giving it a share of their future contributions. As regards the Square, if the Bands will play there twice a week, as we understand they intend to do during the Summer, the place should certainly be put in some decent order for their accommodation and that of the public who resort to the Square on the evenings of playing. The *Protestant* recommends that seats should be provided by the City Authorities forthwith. That is the very least that can be done; but we think they might go further, and fence, level and plant the Square with ornamental trees. As the Square now stands, its neglected condition is a reproach to the City Government: it is never much used as a thoroughfare to the adjacent streets: it is never likely to be desecrated for a marketing place; yet it is allowed to be used as a common pasture for vagrant cows and horses, which the Police Officers will often obligingly lose sight of; and, still worse, for noisy and tumultuous games, which the law does not sanction, and which are often very annoying to the citizens in the vicinity of the Square. We fully agree with the *Protestant* that the City Fathers might, with great propriety, devote a little attention to the improvement of this piece of ground, which might be made a great ornament to the City at a little expense.

FORGERY OF UNION BANK NOTES.

A preliminary examination of witnesses relative to the forgery of certain $20 Notes of the Union Bank, took place on Thursday last, at the Police Court, and was resumed on Saturday last, which resulted in tracing at least some of the said forged Notes to Mrs. Ellen Jane Coombs and her servant Johanna Connor—who have been accused of stealing and uttering the said Notes. The result of the examination has been reported for the *Examiner*, and is as follows:—

W. C. TROWAN, Boot and Shoe-maker, examined — Deposeth that on Tuesday last, the 23rd day of June, the prisoner, Johanna Connor, came into his shop and purchased a pair of boots, value 18s and gave in payment a $20 Note of the Union Bank of P. E. Island. Deponent gave prisoner in change £5 5s in Island notes, and 2s change. On Wednesday he (Mr. Trowan) heard a report that there were several $20 Union Bank Notes in circulation, which were supposed to be forged. He then examined the Note which he had received the day previous from prisoner, and observed that the signatures were badly written. Compared the signatures with others of the Union Bank Notes, and discovered that the Note he held was doubtful. Went to the U. Bank and showed the Note to Mr. Anderson, the Cashier, who at once said that it was a forgery. Mr. Trowan then went to see prisonar at Mrs. Coombs's — asked her if she had purchased any boots from him? Prisoner denied. Mrs. Coombs was present, and asked him if the party who had bought the boots had paid for them? He said yes, but that there was a mistake which he desired to have rectified. She girl again denied having bought any boots from him, and Mrs. Coombs said that the girl had not been out of the house on Tuesday—that she (Mrs. C.) had some trouble about a Note which she had sent to Mr. Young's of $20, Union Bank, which note she said she received in payment for board from Mr. Renouf. Mr. Trowan then proceeded to the shop of Delany & Wilson, and there learned from Miss McLaren, clerk, that the prisoner had been in their store on Tuesday, and had shown her a pair of boots which prisoner said she had bought at the shop of Mr. Trowan. Mr. Trowan is quite certain that the prisoner is the same person who came to his shop on Tuesday last and got the boots and money from him. The Note now produced in Court is the same note which the prisoner gave him. He did not know prisoner by name—found her out by a description of her appearance given him by Chas. Palmer, Esq. When he first saw her, was not satisfied that she was the same person, but on seeing her the second time he felt satisfied that she was the same girl. At the time she bought the boots from him, she wore a pair of ear rings.

CHARLES PALMER, Esqr., President of the Union Bank, Sworn—Deposeth that the writing on the face of the Note now produced is neither his signature nor that of James Anderson the Cashier. It is a regular forgery. The note must have been taken from the impression of one of their own plates. The edges are not clipped, and the Notes issued by the Bank are clipped. Some time after the Notes arrived from the States, the parcel was opened in his Office, by a carpenter named Winter Renouf, he (Mr. P.) being present at the time. The package remained some time in his office. After he heard that spurious Notes were afloat he counted the stock of blank Notes, and discovered that out of the whole there were seven blank Notes missing. The packages out of which these were taken, appeared to have been opened and resealed by some person unknown. He (Mr. P.) had some conversation with Mrs. Coombs on yesterday and to-day. First, she said she had two Notes; this morning she said she had another $20 Note besides, which she did not mention before, which Note, she said, she had got from a pedlar. This last Note he (Mr. P.) understood was the third Note held by Mrs. Coombs. His Office is in the same house in which Mrs. Coombs dwells. A door opens from his office into the hall of Mrs. Coombs' house—Mrs. C. has access to the office for the purpose of lighting fires and cleaning the office, which services, as he understands, were performed by the prisoner for Mrs. Coombs Renouf boarded at the same house. He understands that Renouf has left the Island for Jersey. The $20 Note now produced No. 856 is a forgery.

EMILY MCLAREN, Sworn—Is a clerk in the store of Delaney & Wilson. On Tuesday last she saw the prisoner in their shop—did not know her name, but knew she lived with Mrs. Coombs. Prisoner bought a dress and other goods, amounting in all to £2 4s 10½d. Paid bill with a $20 Union Bank Note. She (Miss McL.) gave prisoner the change. Prisoner showed her a pair of boots—they were new. Prisoner said she bought the boots from W. C. Trowan. The boots were patent leather, elastic sides, black soles. It was after dinner.

W. H. WILSON, Sworn—On Tuesday last a forged Note of $20 was received at their store. When he (Mr. W.) found out that the Note was forged he sent it to Mrs. Coombs, who paid over to him on account £4 6s 6d, and promised the balance, £1 13s 6d, to be paid the following day. The Note now produced is the same Note which had been taken at their store.

FRANCES ANN THOMPSON, Sworn—Keeps a Milliner Shop in Kent Street. The prisoner on Friday last purchased goods to the amount of £1 2s 6d at their Shop, and gave witness a Union Bank Note, $20. Witness gave prisoner the change, £5 2s 6d. The Note now produced is the same Note which prisoner passed on witness. Witness is positive the prisoner is the person who gave the Note to her.

CHAS. PALMER, Esq., (recalled)—The Note now produced is a forged Note—both the signatures are forged.

ROBERT YOUNG, Sworn—Knows the prisoner at the Bar. Last Friday the prisoner bought some goods at his shop, and gave him a $20 Union Bank Note, and he gave her the change. Yesterday he discoverd the Note was a forged Note. He was about paying it to the old Bank, when the Teller of that Bank said it was a forged Note. Is quite satisfied that the prisoner is the same person who passed off the Note to him. Yesterday he saw Mrs. Coombs at her own door. Mrs C. said it was a very serious matter, and she did not know how she could account for it.

CHAS. PALMER, Esqr., (recalled)—Looks at the Bank Note *above referred to by Robert Young*; says this Note also is a forgery. He (Mr P.) was present when Mr. Young's clerk called at Mrs Coombs' about the Note. Mrs. C. admitted that she gave the Note to the prisoner, as she never shopped herself, and generally sent out her girl.

CHARLES PERKINS, Sworn—Is a clerk with Mr. Young. Last Friday the prisoner came in to buy some cotton. She paid for the cotton with a $20 Bill. On Wednesday he went to Mrs. Coombs's house. The prisoner admitted that she was the girl who passed the Bill. Mrs. Coombs said that it was her (Mrs. C.) who gave the girl the money to go out and shop for her.

F. BRECKEN, Esqr., Sworn—Is acquainted with John Winter Renouf. He recommended said Renouf to proceed to Jersey to look after property left him by his grandfather. Expects him back in the course of two months. Renouf did not abscond. Left papers and property in his (Mr. B's.) hands. Believes he will be back. He (Mr. B.) looks at the forged Notes and signatures — cannot believe that the names are in the handwriting of Renouf, who writes a clumsy heavy hand. Don't believe that he wrote the signatures to these Notes, but can't say.

MARY WALL, Sworn—Knows both prisoners. On Thursday heard Mrs. Connor (mother of the prisoner) speak to Mrs. Coombs. Mrs. Coombs told Mrs. Connor that her daughter was in the lock-up for something about forged Notes. Heard Mrs Coombs say that the Note she had given to the girl to spend at Delany & Wilson's she had received from a pedlar. The pair of boots she had bought from Mr. Trowan she had sent out by Johanna to get the high heels knocked off.

W. C. TROWAN recalled—About ten days since, Mrs Trowan sold a pair of boots to Mrs. Coombs for 16s., description of which quite differed from pair bought by prisoner Connor. He (Mr. T.) then described the boots purchased by the girl Connor. At the first sight of the girl, he (Mr. T.) was not certain that it was her, from her altered appearance; but when he saw her again he felt satisfied she was the same girl.

M. MCLEOD, Esq., sworn—Recollects that in the month of May last—on a Friday—the boxes containing the Blank Notes were put into their office. On Saturday, Renouf was requested to knock off the hoops and open the case, which he did. The notes were taken out and examined by the Directors present, and returned into the boxes. The boxes were not again fastened. The notes remained in the office until the following Monday, when they were all removed except the $20 packages, which were placed by Mr. Palmer in the Safe. On Saturday evening locked the hall door leading into the office, also the street door of the office and put the iron safe over the hatch leading to the cellar. Thinks he took both keys with him. Is certain of taking the outer door key. May have left the other key in the office. Side of hall door turned. Is certain both doors were locked. Some of the $20 packages remained in the Safe until quite lately. The Safe was always kept locked at night. The Key was put in a table drawer and locked up, and key of locked drawer at times taken home by him (McLeod), and sometimes left secreted and covered among loose papers in the other unlocked drawer of same table. He (McLeod) was absent at St. Eleanor's Court. Does not know anything about the keeping of the key while he was away—about four nights. He thinks that on the evening the boxes were opened by Renouf the $20 packages were put in Mr Palmer's safe. The key of the safe was always locked up in a drawer when left in the office. On the Monday morning the safe was across the cellar hatch, and remained there until three or four days ago, apparently as he had placed it. On the Saturday evening, one end of one of the $20 packages was opened, that some of the Directors present might see them. One or two of the notes were taken out for examination. They were then returned into the same package.—Thinks that the package was resealed.

LOUIS H. DAVIES sworn—Is a Law Student with Mr. Palmer.—At the time Mr. McLeod was away at St. Eleanor's, he had charge of the office. After locking the safe, the key was placed in a table drawer and locked up. The key of the locked drawer was then placed in another drawer in the same table, open, thrown in among papers. While Mr McLeod was away, the outside door was locked on the inside, and the key of the door leading to the hall from the office was placed above the door after locking it, so that Mrs. Coombs might have access to the Office for the purpose of sweeping it.

Hon. JOHN LONGWORTH, Counsel for the prisoners, then addressed the Court, and stated that in the first place he appeared as Counsel for the girl, Connor, to answer one charge, viz., that of receiving goods under false pretences, but in consequence of the wide range which the investigation had taken, the case had assumed a much more important character, involving charges of a very serious nature not only against that prisoner (Connor), but also against Mrs. Coombs, who, up to this time, had been known in the community as a person of respectable character. The learned Counsel then referred to an observation which had fallen from the learned Recorder, to the effect, that the case might comprise distinct charges of obtaining goods under false pretences, of uttering forged notes, forgery and larceny. He (Mr. Longworth) observed that supposing the case involved the two first mentioned charges only, their Worships must be satisfied of the sufficiency of the evidence adduced that the parties knew the notes to be forged at the time they were uttered to warrant them in committing the parties for trial, the guilty knowledge of that fact on