

permit him to persevere in that resolution. (Loud and enthusiastic cheers.) I have by no means such an opinion of the life of the Parliament as Mr. O'Neill entertains. I don't wish it a long life; I wish it a sudden death and without the benefit of Clergy. (Laughter and cheers.) I wish it a sudden death by the restoration of the Irish Parliament; and when we obtain that Parliament, we shall have Mr. O'Neill sitting for an Irish constituency, and attending to the interests of Ireland alone. (Loud cheers.) I don't think it possible, even if the Union were to continue, that the Parliament will be long-lived. It has been elected under a singular state of parties. Parties are in a state of fusion, or perhaps I should say of confusion. (Hear, hear.) But they will not be long so. The miserable motives that have been at work in many quarters will not be long in gathering to a head; and you will have the Whig and Tory party again. You will have the Tory party united under Sir Robert Peel, and you will have the Ministry driven from office in order that the country may get a Government more to its liking. But I say more—I say the Union will not be continued—(cheers)—therefore, the Parliament will not last long. It is not by Ireland alone, but by the inevitable tendency of the laws that have been passed, that the Union will be repealed. And the Repeal of the Union is the only thing that can bring the country safe through the revolution which she shall pass through before this time twelve-months, if some great and comprehensive step is not taken in advance. (Hear, hear, hear.) Many remedies may be devised for the evils of Ireland, but we have the true answer ready; by bringing back the monies of the country, and by bringing home the rich proprietary—in a word, Repeal the Union. (Cheers.)

THE EXAMINER.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1847.

IMPERIAL DUTIES.

The Proclamation which makes known and puts in effect the renunciation, by the Imperial Government, of the Imperial Duties, has just been promulgated; and viewing it as connected with several significant circumstances which have recently transpired, but more particularly the publication of a Despatch, which was intended, it should seem, to draw each of the North American Governments into an examination of the question, whether or not it may be practicable, by means of a sort of Congress to be holden for that purpose, to put all the Colonies under one code of Customs Laws, and likewise under one General Post Office Regulation, &c.—gives us reason to think (it may be to apprehend,) that excepting as respects mere municipal regulations, there is an intention to place these Colonies under one Federal Government. We would remind "A British Colonist," that the Imperial Government has already done away with all differential duties, and that the whole subject of Free Trade, both Inter-Colonial and Foreign, is about to be brought under discussion. It is not now necessary to follow the writer in the *Gazette*, in investigating this matter; for however ably he has treated the subject, he stops short of giving any advice upon the matter—telling us merely, if we read him aright, to be extremely careful how we enter on the career of Free Trade, and particularly insisting that its basis, at all events, should be reciprocity. Without at present pledging ourselves to anything decisive, we do not hesitate to affirm our conviction, that Free Trade in Corn is an undoubted boon to the Colonies. There would seem to be diversities of opinions on this matter in the Canadas, where many consider that the States can carry on through the St. Lawrence a trade ruinous to their agriculture; and it is even proposed to render such a competition abortive, by encumbering it with transit duties. As to ourselves and the Corn Trade, we are, or ought to be—a considerable exporting country. We have no rivers on which to tax the trade of neighbouring countries during its transit. We are simply placed in fair and open competition, and there is not any intelligible reason why we cannot afford to export such corn as we grow, at the same price as our neighbours. The differential duties being disallowed by the policy of the Imperial Government, we certainly see no reason why we, —as one of the States of the proposed Union—can have anything to fear from an understanding being come to, regarding an assimilation of our duties with those of the neighbouring British Colonies. There must ever be sources of revenue, of an indirect nature, in a country where there is no realization of property, and those duties must be raised on imported articles. We cannot conceive that there can be any sensibly great alteration in those we at present impose; and if the matter is to

stop there, no great difficulty in an assimilation would occur. With the States we have not any reciprocity, for it is very little they take from us. Free Trade as respects our intercourse with them, has no object,—the home Market being already open to our Grain. We have no particular interest in reducing our duties on British goods; for, after all, we must have a revenue equal to pay the expenses of Government, which, as a matter of course—now that the duties are made over—will be thrown on our own hands. The question of the Post Office is one of minor import, and must depend on calculations and details, of which we have not the data. We can then look on these instructions—and such they are, so far as indicating nothing that would be of very difficult arrangement. But farther than holding a Congress on the subject of duties, we cannot go. Our insular situation, with the frozen seas which separate us from the continent, effectually, in our opinion, debar us from having a due share in a Federal Union.

The free gift, however, of the Imperial Duties, is a momentous crisis in Colonial History, though it affects us only to the amount, we may say, of collecting Customs and Excise by one department, and so far from separating us from the British Crown, will have a direct tendency to bind us to it by increased ties of gratitude. And if, on the basis of their remission or reduction, we can establish a Free Trade anywhere, based on reciprocity, we shall do well; but having only few things to export, or to which to apply capital or industry, we cannot blindly embrace the doctrine of Free Trade; for we can form no parallel with an old country in this matter; for there, if capital is rendered useless by remission of duties, there are multifarious objects to which it can be applied, and frequently with great benefit to the community at large; but with us there is no such convertibility.

OPINIONS OF THE ENGLISH PRESS ON COLONIAL POLITICS.

We are permitted, through the politeness of a friend, to make the following extract from the London "Daily News" of the 30th August.

The result of the general election in Nova Scotia has brought on a critical period for our North American colonies and the empire at large.

The returns show an undisputed majority in the House of Assembly of eight liberals—of eight members of the party opposed to the provincial cabinet bequeathed by Lord FALKLAND to Sir JOHN HARVEY. The question whether there is or is not to be a responsible government in Nova Scotia can no longer be evaded. The present administrative council of that colony and the new House of Assembly cannot act in concert; one or the other must give way. If government acquiesce in the decision of the colonial elections, and form a provincial cabinet of the leaders of the popular party, public business will go on smoothly and satisfactorily. If an attempt is made by any *coup d'état*, or by corruption, to keep the old party in office, the consequence, not for Nova Scotia alone but for the whole of our British North American colonies, may be of the gravest character.

The leaders of the party which has triumphed in the late elections were excluded from office by Lord FALKLAND on purely personal, and, we must be allowed to say, most paltry, considerations. They unquestionably possess among them a greater amount of business talent than is to be found in the ranks of the opposite party. Their loyalty is unquestioned, and they are the popular party. It is to be hoped that Sir JOHN HARVEY will not allow any personal grudge, because these gentlemen declined when he took the reins of government to lend themselves to make up a composite cabinet devoid of principle, to prevent his at once and frankly calling to his council the popular leaders. Should he be so ill advised, we cannot believe that the brother-in-law of the late Earl of DURHAM—himself so frank and fearless in the avowal of his liberal opinions—will countenance such an attempt to ride rough-shod over responsible government. We look, in the event of Sir JOHN'S demurring, to his receiving a peremptory intimation to govern with and through the House of Assembly, or resign his appointment.

Nothing short of this, we are satisfied, will content the people of Nova Scotia. If they are thus left to regulate their internal affairs according to their own notions, their attachment to the British connexion will know no bounds. The bad effects of any course of policy adopted by the home government that would shake the loyalty of Nova Scotia, by infringing upon the constitutional rights of the colonists, would not be confined to that province. Canada is still in a doubtful temper: the effects of the unlucky misunderstanding between Lord METCALFE and the leaders of the responsible government party have not yet entirely subsided. A deputation is at present on its way, or about to be sent, from Prince Edward's Island—with the Speaker of the

House of Assembly at its head—to complain of the conduct of the governor. With new or scarcely appeased discontents lurking in all the neighbouring colonies, it would be the height of folly to trifle with the public feeling of Nova Scotia.

Great Britain has much staked upon the loyalty and love of these North American colonies. The possession of Halifax and Bermuda gives us in time of war the command of the whole North American coast. With these two stations in our possession, and with a constant communication maintained by steamers from this country to each, and between them, our fleets might keep the northern Atlantic as easily as ever our ancestors kept the narrow seas. Losing Halifax, there is no other harbour in America that could serve as a substitute for it; and, separated from it, Bermuda would lose almost all its value. But Halifax is no Gibraltar, to be held in defiance of the people which possesses the main land. The only condition upon which we can retain it is the maintenance of the colonial *nexus* which binds the countries behind it to the mother country. And the only condition upon which that *nexus* can be maintained is by keeping the colonists loyal. To make and keep them so there is no other *recipe* than that of leaving their local government in their own hands. Self-government in all local affairs will soon render them as prosperous as their neighbours in the United States, and prosperity will keep them loyal.

Whilst it is gratifying to know that the Colonies are regarded with friendly and generous feelings by an intelligent and influential Press in England, and to find it ready to advocate the claims to all the advantages of free Government, which these Colonies possess in common with the Mother Country, it is nevertheless necessary that sound views and accurate information should be promulgated by every legitimate means. That the "Daily News" has fallen into an error with reference to the causes of complaint in this Colony, is evident from the manner in which the allusion is put. It has been, for so long a period, the misfortune of the British American Provinces to be governed by injudicious or incapable officers, and complaint and remonstrance, on the part of the Colonists, have been so long the necessary result of their government, that the inference is readily drawn by our English cotemporary, that Sir H. V. Huntley's Administration is distinguished for partiality and corruption similar to what has been heretofore laid at the door of Colonial Governors. This inference is, however, decidedly wrong. Until within a year or two Sir Henry V. Huntley was justly censured for following in the footsteps of his predecessors; and whether he was chargeable with equal hostility to the opinions and feelings of the people, he gave evidence of no desire to promote their wishes, and cultivate their generous feelings towards himself, until circumstances emancipated him from the thralldom of a despotic Councillor. Since then, Sir H. V. Huntley has been guided by the most liberal views, in the administration of his Government—maintaining a position wholly different from that heretofore occupied by any Colonial Governor—frankly and boldly declaring his adhesion to those principles of Government which the "Daily News" advocates on behalf of the Colonies, a fact which is strikingly proved by the nature of the opposition now offered to him, and by the never-to-be-forgotten delegation—an opposition set on foot by the enemies of the Reform Movement—and a Delegation, a part of whose object it is to complain that the Governor has adopted in his Government the principles of the Liberal Party.

THE HONORABLE AMBROSE LANE was, on Tuesday last, sworn in Administrator of the Government of this Island, in the absence of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Sir H. V. Huntley.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—In our next No. we shall complete the publication of the several communications which have been lying over for two or three weeks past.

ACCIDENT.—A man named Dougald Buchanan, of Big Belfast, fell on Saturday last from the side of the Barque Boreas, lying in Orwell Bay, and was drowned.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT.—A man who has been employed in the Messrs. Scovill's Steam Mills, Shediac, was, on the 27th ult., drawn in contact with a wheel in one of the Mills, and had both his arms torn off to the shoulders, one of his legs and two of his ribs broken. He is not expected to survive. His name is McLeod; he formerly belonged to this Island.

CONCERT.—Baron de Fleur purposes to give his Farewell Concert on Tuesday next. The Baron's great musical talent and reputation entitle him to a bumper house.