By books of travels, by novels, by songs, by sermons, by reviews, by newspaper articles, by Exeter Halls and political emissaries, by contributions of money, by diplomacy, by social and religious influences; in fine, by every instrumentality that could be brought to bear upon the human mind, England has been laboring for the last thirty years to propel her whole moral weight upon the Northern mind, so as to instigate and inflame it to sectional hostility against those States of the Union in which slavery existed. The most distinguished Southern statesman, on a visit to her capital, was ostentatiously slighted by the nobility, and a fugitive slave publicly petted by the same Duchess of Southerland who dispossessed her white tenantry in Scotland to convert their farms into sheepwalks.

The South never had a friend in England till this war began! Was all this philanthropy? Every child knows that England has been the greatest slave-trader in the world, and herself planted the institution here which suddenly became so abhorrent to her moral sense. Even an idiot can understand that she only used anti-slavery as a wedge to accomplish the disruption of a hated and formidable power, and hence, now that her object is accomplished, she preserves a "rigid neutrality," and takes sides with neither "belligerents."

But the day of retribution will one day come. We are beginning to think that the day is not far distant. Her hold upon the magnificent province of Canada is precarious, and her ancient domination of the sea may, ere long, be successfully disputed. We have no doubt she sympathizes with "the Rebellion," and wishes that it would last for ever; but it is only that her own prosperity may be built up on the common ruin of the United States and the Confederacy.

THE NEW YORK *HERALD* ON WAR.

The *Herald*, not content with inflaming the passions of the American people against England, indulges its readers this morning with a lecture upon the benefits of war. The text is the Monroe Doctrine, and the ideas of the *Herald's* editorial are derived from the *Richmond Enquirer*, which, a few days ago, expressed the hope that if the South is compelled to submit, the chivalry may still be enabled to continue in the path of war by joining the North in a crusade against the rights of our neighbours.

The *Herald* says:—

"Foreign wars can be recognized on every page of history as the definite force that binds communities into nations, that forces into unity separate peoples, that consolidates and strengthens the unity of those who hold loosely together, and that invigorates an already established nationality with the grandest spirit. War is a severe regimen, a fierce treatment; but, like every other severe regimen or fierce treatment, while it is certain destruction to the puny—to those whose vital current runs low—it is life and a higher organization, a vigorous health, a more perfect sympathy, and oneness of all the parts in those who can stand it. This is so true that, great as the horrors of war unquestionably are, it is certain that there are times when it would be a wise statesmanship to invoke war, with all its horrors, as a proper stimulant for national life."

Arguments such as these are a disgrace to our civilization, and would seem to justify the assertion made by intelligent Europeans, that the American people have imbibed the spirit of the Indian from the soil which they have wrested from his grasp. The belief in the benefits of war is an essentially savage one, the more man recedes from the "state of Nature," the more he is inclined to depend upon the arts of peace for his progress. The doctrine of the *Herald*, if carried into practice, would make the whole world a scene of carnage, and place, at all times, the weak under the heels of the strong. No free community could exist upon the face of the earth unless it were sufficiently powerful to withstand aggressions on the part of their neighbors, founded upon no better justification nor higher right than the desire to knit together more closely the component parts of the empire of the aggressors.

What would be said of the morality or decency of the individual who makes a murderous attack upon an innocent and unoffending pedestrian whom he chances to meet, with no higher justification for his ruffianism than that he felt the necessity for some excitement; that the exercise incident to the wielding of a club upon the heads of his fellow citizens is beneficial to his muscular system; that without such exercise he fears his strength might deteriorate, and his constitution be impaired. Such an individual ought to be incarcerated for life, or be subjected to the restraining influence of a straight jacket. A nation acting under the advice of the *Herald* should be wiped from the face of the earth as a disturber of the peace, and a constant menace to the happiness of mankind.

For four years past we have experienced the "blessings of war." We have felt what it was to lose friends, brothers, fathers and husbands upon the battle field. We can no longer regard with an eye of contempt the tax-ridden people of the earth, as we are labouring under self imposed burthens, heavier by far than are imposed upon any nation in Europe. But we were willing to bear all this, and more, because we believed that we were fighting and suffering for a principle, for national life and national honour; but if the struggle in which we are engaged, if all this blood-letting has no higher justification than that it is to serve as a "healthy stimulent," the world may well stand aghast at such an outcrop of barbarism in the midst of civilization, and its interests would be to organize an international *posse comitatus* for the coming of a social monster, such as we, under the *Herald's* advice, would make of ourselves.—*N. Y. Commercial Advertiser, Jan 25.*

THE PASSPORT SYSTEM.—Our American contemporaries continue to complain loudly of the evils and inconveniencies of the passport system. The Cincinnati *Gazette* says:—Facts are growing daily more numero to show that the passport system in operation at the outlets of the Canadian railroads is not only of no possible advantage to this Government, in serving as a check to the movements of bad men, but that it is actually a serious evil to the general interests of our trade, and honest and necessary communication between the east and the west. Were the British Provinces shut in by a Chinese wall, with its only openings at the border railroad stations, there might be some plea in favor of the present rule; but it would even then be necessary to forget the existence of all means of climbing over or digging under. As it is, only honest men are detained and made to suffer heavy loss in fees to sharish consuls. Such important links have the Canadian railroads become in the great through lines connecting the West with the seaboard, that the embargo rests with heavy weight upon the sections of country and connecting lines of railroad this side of the border, both east and west, being the practical paralysis of all routes on our soil with connections extending over the Canadian border. This, at a season when, for hundreds of miles of the frontier, solid ice forms now a natural bridge, and where at all other points, at all seasons, skiffs can land their passengers, unobserved on American soil, not to speak of wide tracts where the division is only an imaginary line, should all go to expose the absudity of expecting any practical result for good from a prohibitory toll on railroad passengers. The people of all loyal communities are slow to take offence at any public measure, however oppressive, that is really designed to further our interests in this struggle. It was supposed the restriction in question would be but temporary, and so to be borne without complaint. Has not an useless embargo been long enough sustained? Has one particle of benefit thus far resulted from the stricture?

THE CANADIAN DIFFICULTY.—The *Army and Navy Gazette* says, this difficulty will in all probability lapse but not harmlessly. The display of attachment to great Britain, and of patriotic zeal, which recent events have called forth, will add many sources of irritation, which the contest in America has opened, and will transfer to the Canadians a full share of the overflowing animosity with which Great Britain is regarded by the mass of the Northern population, but Canadians have certainly established fresh claims to imperial sympathy and support.

A movement is being made to erect a monument to the late Lord Carlisle in Dublin.

STATE DEBTS.—This being the season for governor's messages, about a dozen documents of this character have made their appearance within a few weeks. So far as they show the debt of the several States, they are of special interest, the effects of war upon finance being in some cases very distinctly marked. As will be perceived from the following statement, debts have rapidly accumulated within the last four years, and chiefly in prosecuting the war:—

Pennsylvania	$39,379,603
Massachusetts	22,893,972
Ohio	13,500,751
Illinois	11,178,514
New York	6,278,954
Maine	5,137,500
Connecticut	5,000,000
Michigan	3,541,129
Wisconsin	2,500,000
Vermont	1,642,845

New Jersey enjoys the enviable distinction of having no debt, but some other States are heavily burthened. Take Maine for example, which, *before the war*, owed only $700,000, but now has an indebtedness of $5,137,000, exclusive of large amounts to be refunded to cities and towns for aid given to soldiers' families. The Portland *Argus*, in contemplating the gloomy prospect, is constrained to say "the indications are that the amount of taxation, municipal, State and Federal, will inevitably reach the utmost limit that can be borne. The State tax this year is to be increased by some three hundred and fifty thousand dollars over that of last year, or to eight times the amount it was six years ago." Massachusetts owes no less than $22,893,972, of which $14,372,000 was added during the war. This sum, however, includes the debt ($5,000,000) guaranteed by railroad companies. Of the State debt of Wisconsin, all but $100,000 was incurred for war purposes. Pennsylvania, with a large debt, experiences a sensible relief in the discovery of immense subterranean reservoirs of oil, to say nothing of the continued development of the iron and coal regions. In this she is remarkably favored. Ohio will have to meet her obligations under circumstances less propitious, for while the public indebtedness has increased, the available resources in some respects have diminished, apparently on account of the loss of manual labor by absorption in the army or by emigration. The auditor's statement just published shows that, as compared with the year 1861, the number of acres in cereal crops has fallen from 6,570,892 to 5,145,374, of which about fifteen per cent was in the last year. In the quantity of cereals produced there was a decline from 106,748,942 bushels in 1862 to 88,245,636 in 1864, the decrease being about seventeen per cent in the last year. Except in the single item of sheep, there was a corresponding decline in the number of domestic animals.

A telegram went the rounds of the papers a short time ago, about a number of murders in New York on New Year's Day. The following from a Liverpool paper is quite as bad:—

"The season of Christmas seems to be remarkable for crime and riotous inebriety. At the bow street police office, London, there were more persons arrested on the 25th than the cells could accommodate, and the extent of dissipation is declared to be unprecedently great. At stafford two men were executed on the 27th for murder. Three men, for the same offence, were under sentence of death at Liverpool; one of whom has been respited. In London, an Italian, named Poliom, in a public-house brawl, killed one man by stabbing him in the abdomen, and dangerously wounded two others. At Brighton a wretched cripple, without either of his legs, deliberately blew out the brains of a man with whom he had some trumpery quarrel. At Aldershot the body of a man has been found, and it is believed that murder has been committed. At Chelmsford, Wane, the man who murdered Amelia Blunt, was hanged. At Liverpool thirty cases occupied the coroner's attention in a single day, and in fifteen of these cases the persons were found dead.

The New York *Herald* is at its favorite work of abusing England and threatening all sorts of vengeance upon monarchial government in America. In a late issue we find the following choice *morceau*:—"We must close up the war in order that we may have a free field for the settlement of our scores with England and France for the insults and outrages heaped upon us by those countries while our hands have been tied by this great domestic struggle. Foreign wars, through all history, have quieted internal discord and been a bond of union to a people; and a foreign war that is necessary to our dignity and honor must serve this purpose for us. Finish the rebellion, and the men of the two sections, engaged in a common war against a common enemy, will be brothers once more in the first battle. Put an army of two hundred thousand Northern and Southern men commingled on the Canadian border, and a similar army on the Rio Grande, and Maximilian will skedaddle out of Mexico, and England will pay bills for the damage done to our commerce by her pirates; or we shall have a war that will shake the governments of those two countries to their foundations, and give their people an occasion to chaunt over themselves those requiems that they intended to chaunt over the great republic."

AN OFFER TO MURDER PRESIDENT LINCOLN, SECRETARY SEWARD AND ANDREW JOHNSON.—The following appears in the advertising columns of a rebel paper — the Selma (Ala.) *Dispatch*—which has been sent us from the front by Colonel Hodge, of the 113th Illinois infantry:—"*One Million Dollars wanted to have Peace by the 1st of March.*—If the citizens of the Southern Confederacy will furnish me with the cash, or good securities for the sum of one million dollars, I will cause the lives of Abraham Lincoln, Wm. H. Seward and Andrew Johnson to be taken by the 1st of March next. This will give us peace, and satisfy the world that cruel tyrants cannot live in a "land of liberty." If this is not accomplished, nothing will be claimed beyond the sum of fifty thousand dollars, in advance, which is supposed to be necessary to reach and slaughter the three villains. I will give, myself, one thousand dollars towards this patriotic purpose. Every one wishing to contribute, will address X., Canawba, Alabama.—Dec. 1, 1864."

THE BULL AND THE SOLDIERS.—There is among the papers of the late Sir William Napier a story of a bull which met a company of British soldiers on march and charged them. The scene of the encounter was the Island of Mauritius. The company was marching in a column of sections, when the bull dashed into it from the rear, knocking the men all ways and emerging at the front, rushed onwards. Hardly had the men time to pick themselves up and recover their order, when the bull turned round and charged their front. The commanding officer called out—"Prepare to receive cavalry," and the men fixed their bayonets and got down just in time to meet the shock. The bull charged home, and fell pierced by a dozen bayonets. The story is told as a remarkable example of the courage of the British soldier, but we think that the bull of the Island of Mauritius was most conspicuous upon this occasion.—*Saturday Review.*

HOPES REALIZED.—Young women lamenting in secret the first grey hairs, those ugly harbingers of decay. MRS. S. A. ALLEN'S World's Hair Restorer and Zylobalsamum, or Hair Dressing, never fail to restore grey hair to its youthful color. They act directly upon the roots of the hair, invigorating them, rendering the hair soft, silky and glossy, and disposing it to remain in any desired position. Every Druggist sells them. W. R. WATSON, Agent for P. E. Island.

Mr. Daoust, M. P. P. for Two Mountains, arrested for forgery in Montreal, has been admitted to bail, himself in £1200, and two securities in £600 each.

Probably the largest salary paid to any church singer in America is received by a boy but twelve years—Master Richard Coker, of Trinity Church, New York. This salary is one thousand dollars per annum.

An omnibus drawn by a locomotive, instead of horses, is now running at Chanteuay, in the south of France. It can be turned and stopped with ease; and both inside and outside passengers travel by it without fear.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM OUR HALIFAX CORRESPONDENT.

HALIFAX, N. S., Jan. 30, 1865.

DEAR EXAMINER—

If there is one feeling which predominates in Nova Scotia more than in any other Colony, it is that of *loyalty*—devoted attachment to British Institutions and the British Queen, and a just pride in the power and prosperity of that empire upon which "the sun never sets." I do not mean by this statement to make any invidious comparisons between this and the sister Provinces, but simply aver that, from our surroundings for the past hundred years, the continual presence of large armies and fleets, from reminiscences handed down to successive generations, this country is devotedly, enthusiastically loyal.

The above may seem irrevalent in a letter like mine, but what I want to show is this: Nothing has had more influence in turning the tide of public opinion in favor of Confederation, in this Province, than the favorable idea entertained of the measure by the Government and leading men of Great Britain. Stamped with this great seal of authority, the scheme has commended itself to the attention and favorable consideration of hundreds who before were dubious as to the advisability of entering into the arrangement, or the benefits to be conferred thereby. Under the sanction of the British Government, and with an assurance of its protection in time of need, they are willing to enter upon this new era, feeling that even if the state of affairs is not bettered by the change, they cannot be made much worse.

Then there is another large class of our population who trouble themselves very little about the merits or demerits of the scheme; but having full confidence in the judgment and patriotism of the party leaders who have for the nonce buried political differences in order to consummate this great *desideratum*, are perfectly content that Nova Scotia should pass favorably upon the scheme, and thus form a portion of the new empire. The latter class number many thousands, and are to be found in all the Colonies. To some, again, the grandeur of the work—that of forming a portion of a large empire, instead of being a small Province, comparatively unknown abroad—holds out sufficient inducement for the ardent support of anything and everything having this object in view. "I am a British American," would be to them as proud a boast, when asked their nationality in foreign lands, as "I am a Roman" was to the ancient inhabitants of that classic city in response to a similar query.

Meanwhile "the (Confederation) ball is up" throughout the country. Meetings are being held every day in some one or more districts, and on the same evening, or on the following day, the telegraph flashes to us the intelligence that "the Union feeling was tremendous," or that "Resolutions denouncing the proposed Confederation were passed unanimously." It is to be observed, however, as rather a singular circumstance, that according to the position taken by the newspaper to whom the telegram is forwarded, so does the message differ as to the results at those country gatherings. Our leading men—Delegates and non-Delegates—those in favor of Confederation and those opposed to it—are constantly on the "go," now addressing some half dozen sturdy settlers in the backwoods of the Province, and again laying their views before large and influential audiences in the heart of civilization.

The Hon. Jonathan McCully is addressing letters to the young men of the country, through the pages of the *Morning Journal*—the organ of the Unionists. His appeals to them are impassioned—his arguments might be made convincing; and were these emanations from the pen of any other man except Mr. McCully, I have every reason to believe that they would have an immense effect.

* * * * *

But Mr. McCully is a member of the Upper House, who are appointed for life, and people are apt to think that he is not exactly unselfish in his advocacy, as he has everything to gain by the adoption of Confederation, and nothing to lose by its rejection. The hon. gentleman wields a powerful pen, however, and it is to be hoped that his endeavours to impress upon the rising generation the principles of Union may not be without avail.

The course pursued by the politicians in your Island is the subject of much discussion here. The Anti-Unionists cite the Colony as an indication of the unpopularity of Confederation in the seeming unanimity with which it is opposed; while their opponents look upon it as of little consequence which way the Island goes at present, as, in the event of the scheme becoming *au fact accomple*, they will eventually be forced to come to terms.

There is but little local intelligence to chronicle. The sleighing is good, and has been so for some time past. Tandem and single teams, with fast horse flesh attached, are flying around in all directions. The weather so far during the winter season has been beautiful.

Our Gold Mines are every day becoming more productive. As a sample of this, the fact need only be cited that a lump of the precious metal was brought to the city one day this week weighing over 250 ounces, and valued at $5000, the product of nine days' crushing at the German Company's works at Waverly. Such pleasing results are of almost weekly recurrence.

The Legislature meets on the 9th proximo. Dr. Slocumb, one of the Conservative M. P.s for Lunenburgh Co., it is said, will not be able to attend this session in consequence of illness. The meeting is looked forward to with great interest, as may naturally be expected.

The Order of Good Templars is making rapid headway in this Province, and bids fair to supersede the Sons of Temperance organization, which in Halifax city is generally considered as a gigantic humbug, so, with one sole object in view—the aggrandisement of some of the more influential members — considerable jealousy is manifested by the latter body in reference to the new Society, and much correspondence has taken place upon the subject. In the country it is undoubtedly different, but here in the city the Divisions are regarded as the resort of hypocrisy and soft headed individuals. A great reform is needed, and must come.

Lectures and scientific societies flourish in our midst—indeed the course of addresses being delivered fortnightly before the Young Men's Christian Association are all the rage, and Temperance Hall is crowded to its utmost capacity on lecture night. B.

[FOR THE EXAMINER.]

TEMPEST IN A TEAPOT.

MR. EDITOR:—

Your contemporary of the *Herald* has had the good fortune to secure the productions of the polished pens of the "Callaghans and Murphys" of Lot 11, who seem to be in a most painful panic about the contemplated British North American Federal Union. As the people of this community point to me as being the butt of their vituperations, I trust you will allow me space in your liberal and enlightened journal to defend myself, and to contradict the false assumptions of these worthies.

I may state, *in the first place*, that Messrs "Spud" and "Callaghan," in their incessant raving and ranting on the scheme of Union, have been calling public meetings, vomiting forth frothy harangues, flinging filth at every one who has the hardihood to oppose their views, and arrogating to themselves powers and privileges which they never derived from God or man. Indeed, the subject on which they are thus presuming to arbitrate, lies vastly beyond the grasp of their musty minds. When these self-constituted "*luminaries*" are asked whether there are *any* terms on which they would approve of an Union of the B. N. A. Colonies, they unhesitatingly respond in the affirmative, yet, strange to say, they never propound these terms. But the funniest dodge of all is to find the "Callaghans" and "Spuds" coming forward as defenders and eulogists of the tortuous Attorney General Palmer. There was a time when this worthy pair of Lot 11 would sooner choke than cherish the mazy measures of that officer. Mr. Palmer must certainly be proud of his great patrons! But we must only infer that the Attorney General is the straw at which our drowning patriots are grasping. They are now floundering in the mire of their own ambition and egotism, and are grasping at the skirts of Mr. Palmer to recover their foot-hold.

Now, I have to inform Messrs. "Callaghan and Murphy" that the Union of the B. N. A. Colonies will, sooner or later, be consummated, notwithstanding their blustering and bellowing against it, and the crooked devices of Mr. Palmer to boot. To have Prince Edward Island placed under the Stars and Stripes may please such men as the two great orators of Lot 11, but it will not please men of sound sense and discerning judgment. The Yankee proclivities of "Callaghan & Co." will find no sympathy with the majority of the people of this or any other British Colony. Our sister Colonies will, doubtlessly, form themselves into a Confederation, and they care but little whether we cast in our lot with them or not. Indeed, in a few years hence, our total revenue would form but a small item in the Exchequer of the new Confederation. Should we prove so stubborn as to maintain that we are wiser than all the statesmen of the Imperial Government and Colonial politicians together, and refuse to be drawn into the new Confederation, we shall richly deserve the destiny that must inevitably await us, namely, to be allowed to drift away at random, to become the prey of whatever power may pounce upon us.

Great Britain has no desire or intention to coerce any of her untoward children to cling to her skirts against their will. On the contrary, if they strike out boldly and manfully in their own strength to better their fortunes, she is both able and willing to afford them a parent's helping hand. Our best policy, then, is to strike the best bargain with the other colonies we are able to make, while we can do so to our advantage and with a good grace. Doing so will not cast us off from our present happy connexion with Great Britain but, on the contrary, draw us still closer to the friendship, and the institutions and interests of the parent State, besides securing for ourselves a greater influence in the Imperial Parliament, and a higher status in view of all christendom.

It is not contemplated by the friends of Union, that in our incorporation with the other Colonies, we are to yield up our present privileges and political freedom; nor are we to hold a subordinate position in any of the elements that may go to form the General Government; but that we shall be secured our full and equitable share of power in all matters, political and fiscal, belonging to the new Confederation. But what avails all this, while the redoubtable "Jo Spud" and the classic "Callaghan" raise their potent voices against Confederation? The Hon. E. Whelan is in favour of an Union; but what is *he* when weighed in the balance against "Spud and Callaghan"? Judge Wilmot of New Brunswick is strongly for an Union; aye, but what is *he* to the illuminated "Spud" and whitewashed "Callaghan"? Bishop Connelly of Halifax gives his powerful support for an Union; but then "Spud and Callaghan" are opposed to it. The first Statesmen of New Brunswick, of Nova Scotia, of the Canadas, and of Great Britain declare for an Union; but alas! who will presume more to speak? for the Spuds and Callaghans of Lot 11, Prince County, Prince Edward Island, have sealed the doom of such a measure by putting their irrevocable veto upon it. Let every tongue therefore be henceforth silent on the subject, and let us all humbly bow before the great patriots who have thus averted the eternal ruin of our Island.

It is most amusing to find "Jumper Joe" advertising himself as a teacher of Grammar, or faulting others for writing ungrammatically. I shall here give him a few passages from his own elegant composition to parse or correct, just as he pleases. "I will tell him that any thing else he may say over any other signature BUT his own, &c!" See Lennie's Grammar, Syntax, Rule 25th. "The best of *a* memory" is also a very classic phrase. Is not the following sentence a model of elegance, perspecuity, and grammatical construction? "* * but no person can say, with any degree of truth, that it is anything else *but* the effusion of a small mind, and a jealous one too; and although three or four of a spiteful crew HAVING met to get it written, yet it is *replete, &c.*" Poor Joe's candle must have gone out as he commenced to write the third paragraph of his letter, or he must have been sleepy and *dozed* over it; for the first sentence of it appears minus the tail. He has laid down some kind of premises, but the conclusion must have vanished from his muddled mind. And again he says "Mr. Palmer is none of *these* men, &c." Poor grammatical Joe! is like the pedagogue who asserted to the School Visitor, "I *teaches* grammar!" How beautifully grammatical is the phrase. "I have a knowledge of *who* they are." I shall now leave these *savants* until some future time, and remain,

Your obd't servant,

AUGUSTINE McINNIS.

Feb. 9, 1865.

(FOR THE EXAMINER.)

SUMMERSIDE TOWN TALK.

The talk still continues for and against the Union of the Colonies. The laughable talk is about the "Organ of the Tenant Union" and his remarks about the floating population of Summerside.

The talk is that the proprietor of a certain newspaper, not a hundred miles from the great City of Carlottetown, had been floating about this County for many years without much benefit to himself or any other person, and that people living in glass houses should not throw stones.

The talk is that every man who spoke for and against Union at our meetings was a property-holder, and nearly every man in the Hall a qualified voter. The talk is that it is not surprising that this community, who are in advance of other localities, should have their eyes open to the tide of prosperity which would flow into this Island, if a part of a great nationality.

The talk is that if the other Colonies generally unite, the Secretary of State will put us in by a stroke of his pen, after we have made ourselves obnoxious by our opposition to the whole Union!

The talk about the "Boy of the *Herald*" is that he is as ignorant of the meetings which were held here, to discuss the merits of Confederation, as the organ of the Tenant Union—that he was often soundly thrashed for his impertinence, but that it has not yet made him a good boy. The talk is, Summerside is bound to go ahead, "Union" or no "Union," that a Bank is to be established here next autumn, and a weekly newspaper is to be started early next summer.

[FOR THE EXAMINER]

MR. EDITOR;—In the *Protestant* of the 28th inst., I notice a communication from a person calling himself "Conservative." In this communication he says of my letter in the *Examiner* that, "his arguments are so contradictory, and so much at variance with the question at issue, that of all writers who had occupied a place in the columns of any of the newspapers since the Union question was first moved, that J. H. Fletcher took the lead both in ignorance and impudence." All these rough schoolboy expressions may be satisfactory to "Conservative," and minds like his; but for my part, I want something more substantial—argument, for instance, in the place of abuse.

In the first place, I challenge "Conservative" to show that my "arguments are contradictory." In the second place, I beg to inform him that I *have not* written on the Union. In writing upon another subject, I had occasion to remark merely that I believed Confederation, as agreed upon at Quebec, to be detrimental to our interests, and I say so still. But as for writing on the subject, producing an argument for or against, I never did. As for taking the "lead in impudence," I will merely remark, that if I am not vastly mistaken in whom "Conservative" really is, that he, at least, can eclipse me in this respect. I am sorry to add that too many would-be politicians of the "Conservative" stamp indulge too freely in hard names and personalities, particularly when they find themselves strangers to argument and incapable of reasoning. For this reason then, I make "Conservative" a fair and open offer:

Come out over your real name—throw away the mask of "Conservative"—and then prove wherein my arguments are "contradictory," or wherein they are "at variance with the subject at issue;" make an attempt if you dare to vindicate Palmer's conduct whilst in the capacity of Delegate, and if I don't shut your mouth forever on that point, then I shall willingly bear the reproach of having taken the "lead in ignorance." If you decline accepting this fair and open challenge, the public, as well as myself, who may have condescended to read your last letter, shall brand you with the stigma of *Coward*. Accept of this, Mr. Conservative, and then we shall see who is most capable of taking the "lead in ignorance."

The rest of "Conservative's" letter is undeserving of notice, unless it be that part wherein he pays you Mr. Editor, the Editors of the *Islander* and *Monitor* such a high compliment. "Conservative" says, "Since the demise of the much lamented Duncan McLean, Whelan has never been properly rebuked for his insults and low manœuvring in politics. The *Herald has been the only match he has met with since, as it can be easily seen the Herald gave him the worst of it.*" It is certainly a compliment to Mr. Whelan to find an enemy admitting that he has had no match since the death of D. McLean. But it is certainly a poor compliment to D. Laird, W. H. Pope and J. B. Cooper—three Editors of considerable experience—to know that they have never even "properly rebuked" Mr. Whelan until Conservative's "pet" Rielly came upon the stage! I hope that when he writes again, argument will supply the place of bombast.

Some obscure and splenetic scribbler signing himself "C. T. V. L."—"*Canes Timidi Vehementius Latrant*"—COWARDLY CURS BARK LOUDEST—has also made a feeble attack on me in the last number of the *Herald*. The name that he has called himself, "C. T. V. L."—is very appropriate, for I am not the only person who has had reason to complain of his cowardly and nonsensical barking. He has made an attempt to prove that I am inconsistent, when he asserts that I have "come out strong in favor of Whelan, Gray, and Haviland, but it seems he is altogether opposed to their principles." I have come out in their favor this far, that I do not believe them capable of treachery; that if they are advocates of Union, they are sincere and conscientious advocates of it, and therefore should, at least, be respected and not abused. Until I am better informed, I shall think them mistaken in their views on that subject; yet I shall not, as one, slander them or impeach their honesty on that account. "Cowardly Cur" says that if an election were to take place to-morrow that I would vote for them, but at "all events, would surely vote for Gray." This depends upon circumstances. Were they to set up as the champions of Confederation, I would not vote for either of them. But were Palmer to come out as their opponent, it is hard to tell what course I might think proper to take, as I would like to give my support to a man who *would advocate the same opinions in the House as he would advocate at the polls*. I am not such a political weather-cock as "C. T. V. L.," neither would I allow myself blindly to be led by a man who was one week a strong Unionist, and the next a bitter Anti-Unionist, only because he did not possess the moral courage to face the tide of public opinion which he saw rising against the scheme of which he was a framer. Neither would I thank a man for coming to the assistance of the Anti-Union party, because he began to see that the 14th Article of the Quebec Report declared that the "first selection of the members of the Legislative Council shall be made, *except as regards P. E. Island*, from the Legislative Councils of the various Provinces." The Hon. E. Palmer is a member of our Legislative Council, and therefore can have no chance of becoming a lord!

"C. T. V. L." next says that "a few more musty unread volumes from the Colonel will make him a full convert to the principles of Union." I am not so easy swayed as certain persons I could name, who have already changed coats for a less consideration. The Colonel gave his 40 volumes of good books to the "Orwell Young Men's Institute" long before Confederation was thought of. The Hon. George Beer, much to his credit, also lately gave our Institute twenty nice volumes. Will "C. T. V. L." say that this was to win any of its members to his way of thinking? he would, perhaps, only that Mr. Beer is an anti-Unionist. This luminous! production winds up with these words: "The words that you quoted against Mr. Whelan, Mr. Fletcher, would make us believe were your own, although marked with inverted commas; but very likely he does not know what inverted commas mean." This sentence is as obscure and unintelligible as the head that framed it. If he means that Mr. Whelan does not know what inverted commas mean—which is the meaning of the sentence—I have only to say that Mr. Whelan understands their meaning, and when to to use them with effect too, and this "C. T. V. L's" old master has been taught by bitter experience. If he means that I do not understand them, he had better refer to the *Herald* of Dec. 14, and then he will find who used them first, and whether I know what they are or not.

In conclusion, I will extend the same challenge to "C. T. V. L." as I did to "Conservative." Let him appear under his real name. Let him quit his cowardly barking behind the bush, and stand forward the champion of his hero and his god, Mr Palmer, and I promise him I shall give him as sound a drubbing as ever fell to the lot of a barking cur. An assertion is one thing and proof is another. And although I know him to be an utter stranger to argument, to truth, to manly discussion, yet I will venture to say, if he will only take up the gauntlet, I shall teach him the proper use of "inverted commas."

A few words more. What has "C. T. V. L." gained by assuring the readers of the *Herald* that I will vote for Col. Gray, according to my communication in the *Examiner*? A good cause requires no lie to support it! I will ask one more question: I lately acted Secretary to an anti-Union meeting where there was a resolution passed commending Mr. Palmer for the course he had taken as a delegate to the Canadian Conference. And, indeed, I see that several meetings have also passed similar resolutions. What is the reason, then, that no resolutions of similar import are tendered to the Hon. George Coles? a man who now, and all along, has opposed Confederation, who *did not* sign the Report, and who manfully split with the Conference on a subject which the Secretary for the Colonies afterwards advised the Canadians to reconsider. The answer is simple; Mr. Coles's straightforward, honest and independent actions require no such trifling assistance. All the monuments Mr. Palmer's friends can raise in his behalf will never be crowned with that imperishable lustre which belongs only to sterling integrity, the defenders of liberty, the advocates of justice, and the friends of the people.

Yours as ever,

J. H. FLETCHER.

Orwell Mills, 6th Feby, 1865.

CANADIAN AFFAIRS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

TORONTO, CANADA WEST,
January 30, 1865.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

On Thursday week last, the Governor-General of Canada opened the Session of Parliament at Quebec. This is likely to be one of the most important Sessions which ever were held in this Province, and measures which will materially affect the prosperity of the country will be brought under discussion. In the Speech from the Throne, his Excellency calls upon the Ministers of both Houses to give the scheme of Confederation a fair and impartial hearing. He urges upon the members the careful consideration of the scheme, and hopes that their deliberations will be carried on in that spirit which will not thwart the objects of the scheme. That the Union of the Canadas with the Maritime Provinces would be beneficial to Canada, few in the West have the hardihood to deny; in fact the Western Province is ripe for the movement, and the representatives are pledged to do all they can for carrying out that great object. The people have expressed their satisfaction in no "uncertain sounds," and little opposition will arise from the Western members: but I know that a strong movement is being made in the Eastern section to quash the movement. Hon. Mr. Dorion and Hon. John Sandfield McDonald have laid their heads together to offer a sturdy opposition, and their opposition is not to be despised, but the present Cabinet have a sufficient number of followers to outvote the Opposition, provided they each and all prove true to their colours. Whether they will do so or not remains to be seen. The ball of discord has been set rolling; and if it gathers strength as its rolls, those in favour of Confederation will have all they can do to keep their heads above water. We, in the West, are satisfied that this scheme is our only salvation, and if it falls through instead of increasing in wealth we will retrograde. The course pursued by the Federal Government towards this country is doing much in favour of the Union, and if the American Government go on insisting upon non-intercourse, and abolishing treaty after treaty—we will have nothing left but to shut up shop and wait to see what will turn up. The opposition offered to the scheme in New Brunswick has had a tendency to inspire the Lower Canada opposition with hope, and if *your Legislature says* that it will have nothing to do with the scheme, then we will be thrown on our own resources, and both will be losers. We have a large amount of produce each year which we cannot use, and unless we can get communication with the seaboard direct all the year round, one of two things will happen, either less will be grown, or it will require to be kept in our barns until the opening of the navigation, then rats and other vermin will help themselves, and the farmer will be a loesr to a great extent.

THE RECIPROCITY TREATY.

The notice that the Senate of the "free and enlightened" purpose abolishing the Reciprocity Treaty, has not taken us greatly by surprise. Their actions lately have all tended to show that they were tired of "John Bull's" strict neutrality, and the only revenge they can have is by putting embargoes on Canadian commerce. It is useless to disguise the fact, that the repeal of this Treaty will, for a time at least, act against the interests of us Canadians; but it will only be for a time, as we must have an outlet to the sea all the year round, come from whatever source it will, and there is no better way than through the Maritime Provinces. With the Intercolonial Railroad in operation, we could snap our fingers at the Americans, be they North or South. Following close upon the notice of the repeal of the Reciprocity, the next most important nuisance is the

PASSPORT SYSTEM,

which has for the last month been in operation on our frontier, is the cause of much annoyance to Canadians. But we are not the only sufferers. The Americans themselves are not at all pleased with the arrangement, especially in Detroit, in which city a large amount of Canadian money was spent. Now that traffic is stopped, as people will not pay the enormous price charged by the Consular Agents for vise-ing the passport. Rumors were very rife in this city to-day that it was the purpose of the Federal Government to withdraw the obnoxious order. Whether it is so or not, I am at present unable to say. They must see that the imposition of the frontier passport system is of no use, as the descriptions given will often answer two or three persons. At Detroit it is a common practice for a lot of persons to land on the same passport. One passes muster, and after a short time he hands his passport to his friend, who also runs the blockade, and this has been found to be the case in as many as twelve different persons, and considering the fact that so soon as the person carrying the passport lands on American soil, he has no more use for it. I have ascertained that these passports are sent to Canada by mail, and thus go backwards and forwards, from one country to the other, day after day. So much for Seward's non-intercourse policy. I learn that the Federal Government decided to put a prohibition on freight traffic as well as upon the passenger traffic, and if he does so it will surely show unmistakeably that his object is to annoy us, and break us down if possible. He knows that we are dependent upon the roads running through the United States for an outlet to the sea, and by placing an embargo upon it he fancies he will coerce us into annexation, or, if not that, that we will go down on our knees and do thus and so for us. I for one, and I know that almost all in this Western section would sooner see Seward, Lincoln and the Federal States submerged in the Atlantic Ocean first.

CONFEDERATION.

This scheme, I am happy to say, is day by day gaining converts, and the fact that the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was passed after one day's debate, shows that the opposition to the scheme is weak indeed. Hon. Mr. Dorion is the only member who lifted up his voice in direct hostility to the scheme; but the course that he, as leader of the Opposition, took on that occasion has been condemned more by the press on his side of the House than by that supporting the Government. The Toronto *Leader*, a thick and thin supporter of the Opposition, says that "Mr. Dorion over did the affair." When condemnation comes from so influential a source, then wrong indeed must have been the policy pursued. Meeting after meeting has been held all throughout the western Province, and the majority have decided to go in for Confederation. I do not think that the Opposition in the present House is strong enough to upset the Ministry on any measure that they may bring up this session. Hon. Mr. Brown has a large army of supporters, so also have Messrs. Cartier and John A. McDonald, whilst on the opposite side the only man who has any followers is the Hon. Mr. Dorion, so that you see their (the Opposition's) chance of gaining their point, in opposition to the Government, is very small. The Governor General has supplied to the House all the correspondence which passed between Canada and the Imperial Government and the Maritime Provinces. This is most satisfactory. The opinion of Mr. Cardwell, M. P., for Oxford, on the Confederation scheme, has given great satisfaction here, and has done much to dispel grave doubts which were entertained as to how the Home Government would view the scheme; but now those who were afraid that England would cut the "apron strings" and let us drift on our course, are satisfied that we will still have the protection of the British Lion, and that his paw will be ever ready to strike down those who attempt to do us injury. The despatch of Mr. Cardwell came most opportunely, and proves a heavy load for some who depended upon the opposition of the Imperial Government.

BENJAMIN B. BURLEY.

This individual who has gained so much notoriety in the seizing of the *Philo Parsons*, since the Americans who burned her, has been tried and held for extradition. Mr. Recoder Duggan sent *him to jail to await the return of the Governor* General; but Mr. M. C. Cameron, M P P., who was his Counsel, got out a writ of *Habeas Corpus*, and had his client taken before the Court of Queen's Bench, where his case was argued before four judges, and on Friday last, those men "learned in the law," sustained the judgment of the Recorder, much to the dissatisfaction and annoyance of the Southern refugees who crowded the Court. They now see that nothing will save the malefactor from justice in Canada, and they tremble for themselves. This judgment will have a great deal to do with the breaking up of those hordes of Southern raiders who thought that they could do anything in Canada, and that as long as they sought shelter here that they were safe. They did not care for the consequences to us, as long as they were themselves protected; but now they find that Canadians will not be made cat's paws of, they will in all probability betake themselves to the South, where their services are so much required at the present time. In this connection I may introduce the

ALIEN BILL,

which the Hon. John A. McDonald has laid before the members of the House. In this Bill he seeks for more power to be vested in the Executive, so that that body may give all suspected parties their *conge* and show them the frontier. The only objection to the Bill as yet was offered by the Hon. J. S. McDonald and Mr. A. A. McDonald, who on the whole approved of the Bill, but did not like its being brought up at present as we might be looked upon by the Federal Government as afraid of consequences, and that it was through fear that this measure was introduced at the present time. There is little doubt but that the Federal Government would gladly put such a construction upon it, but the discussion which will follow when the Bill comes to be discussed, will prove to them that they have not drawn us into any thing at all, but that it is brought up to prove our neutrality, and to save our government from endless litigation and broil.

FIRES.

We have suffered dreadfully in this Province from fires during the last six months; and nearly all are the work of incendiaries. Since last Sunday there have been five of these fires in London, destroying property to the extent of about $150,000. There was one in Hamilton on the 26th, by which a pork curing establishment was razed to the ground, the loss of which is estimated to be $100,000. In seven other towns they have had their fires, and property and lives have been endangered.

THE WEATHER

Is now all that could be wished. We have excellent sleighing, and dry cold atmosphere. Skating is all the rage. Man, woman and child carry through the streets a pair of skates; and looking at the large number of those who carry these useful articles, one would say that Torontonians had "skating on the brain."

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, February 13, 1865.

CONFEDERATION IN CHARLOTTETOWN.

PUBLIC MEETING CALLED BY THE MAYOR.

A Public Meeting, called by His Worship the Mayor, in compliance with a requisition addressed to him for that purpose — was held at the Court House in the Province Building, on Friday evening last. His Worship the Mayor presided, and the City Clerk, P. Macgowan, Esqr., acted as Secretary. An attempt was made to get the Meeting adjourned, in order to procure a full house for the Debating Society in the Temperance Hall, where the Anti-Unionists were endeavouring to collect their forces, to make a great hulla-baloo against the measure; but the energy and firmness of the Mayor defeated the disgraceful attempt to suppress a free and open discussion; and the baffled and crest-fallen Anti-Unionists retired from the City Meeting in disgust. The Court House was densely crowded when the discussion commenced, about 7 o'clock, and every intelligent person in the community appeared to be present — Clergymen, Lawyers, Doctors, Merchants, Members of both Branches of the Legislature, Mechanics, and, indeed, every class in the City was fully represented. The following are the names of the gentlemen who addressed the Meeting—Hon. T. Heath Haviland, Hon. George Coles, Mr. A. McNeill, Hon. George Beer, Hon. D. Davies, Frederick Brecken, Esq. Messrs. Coles, Beer and Brecken were opposed to Confederation—the others were in favour of it. We have not been able to get a report of the speeches in time for this No.; but a report is in course of preparation, and we will give it as soon as possible.

The Meeting did not break up until about 12 o'clock, and then only adjourned until this (Monday) evening.

We have received from our own Reporter, R. B. Irving, Esqr., a portion of his Report of the speeches at the Court House on Confederation, on Friday evening last, but so fully are the speeches reported, that our present space is insufficient to give even one speech; and we think we would not be doing justice to the speeches if we did not give their remarks entire. In order to do so, we shall appropriate to them a very large amount of space in our next No.

Mr. Irving will also report the speeches at the adjourned City Meeting to-night, for THE EXAMINER.

* Two meetings have been held here during the past fortnight by a new Society, organized chiefly by young men, who are blind to their own interests in their mad efforts to obstruct Confederation, and whose organization seems to have been designed for the purpose of making an exhibition of their madness. Some heads that are older, and ought to be wiser, countenanced the folly, and indulged in heated declamation against Confederation. Others, friends to the cause, supported it at the first meeting with, perhaps, a little too much vehemence, and nothing but turmoil and unseemly bickering were the results. Confederation will not be stopped or advanced by passionate exhibitions on either side. We advise the advocates of Confederation to keep their temper; they can well afford to do so; the cause is prospering in every direction; and its strength will increase in proportion to the weakness exhibited by their adversaries in lashing themselves up into a silly fury against the measure.

MEETING AT SOURIS AGAINST CONFEDERATION.—We learn from the *Protestant* of Saturday evening, that the Hons. Messrs. Hensley and Beaton addressed a large meeting of their constituents at Souris, on Wednesday last, on the question of Confederation, at which a resolution was passed disapproving of the measure as framed at the Quebec Convention, but not of Union in the abstract. A resolution was passed directing the proceedings to be published in the Charlottetown papers. The Secretary, whoever he was, has not furnished us with a report; and that which appeared in the *Protestant* of Saturday night came too late to be available for our present No., but it will appear in our next.

ANOTHER DISTINGUISHED CATHOLIC BISHOP IN FAVOUR OF CONFEDERATION.—We are happy to learn that the Right Rev. Dr. Mullock, the eminent Catholic Bishop of St. John's, N. F., has proclaimed himself, in no doubtful terms, as a warm advocate of Confederation. The letter from his pen, containing his views, and published in the St. John's papers, will appear in our next issue. Some people are rash enough to say that the Catholic Clergy, and the *Irish* Catholic Clergy especially, are opposed to Confederation! The published declarations of Archbishop Connolly and Bishop Mullock—(two of the most true hearted Irishmen that ever lived) —give a positive contradiction to this false statement. But we shall have more to say on this subject at another time.

A GLANCE AT THE MARITIME PROVINCES FROM A CANADIAN STAND POINT.

The Quebec *Morning Chronicle* of the 13th ultimo, has a very able article on the agitation in the Maritime Provinces against Confederation. We can make room for only the following paragraphs, but they are to the point, and we especially commend to the notice of the "malcontents" here the pointed allusions to Prince Edward Island, and the precious leader they have set up in the person of their Attorney General:—

"The constitutional controversy in the Maritime Provinces, as revealed to us by the leading newspapers there, is full of instruction, though not at first sight very intelligible to Canadian readers. We see that certain names are arrayed against other names, that editorial anger is flying about in a dense shower of sparks; that public meetings have been held for and against Union, and that one of the delegates at least, who had the honor to take part in the late memorable Conference at Quebec, has recanted his opinions, and gone back to the blind and fatal fold of isolation and estrangement. We see, that the struggle, so far as there is one, even in the least of the Colonies, *is waged between intelligence and prejudice, between a generous advocacy of the general good of all the Colonies, and short-sighted appeals to local, special, and personal interests.*

"At this stage of things no one who knows what stuff men are made of could be surprised. It was natural, it was inevitable, that isolation should have its defenders, and estrangement its partizans. It was so pleasant and habitual for small men to domineer on a small stage that no one could wonder if insignificance itself should make some stir before consenting to be snufied out. The moth struggles with the candle, as is its nature, but the candle consumes it.

"We have no intention, far from it, to be personally severe with those gentlemen of the Maritime Provinces who have selected for themselves the invidious character of opponents of Union. We are as little angry as surprised at the election they have made. But we think we have a right to say to them in all sadness, that the day is not distant when the children who hear their names will blush for having had fathers who sought the disseverance, and weakness, and disaster of these Provinces, rather than their union, and strength, and security.

"What has been proposed (and not without some sacrifices), by the statesmen of Canada? A political union under certain arrangements. What is maintained by the malcontents of the Lower Provinces? Political separation without hope of arrangement.—These are stripped of all disguises of detail,—the two broad propositions put forth clearly from Quebec in October last, and to one or other of them, every public man in British America must declare himself an adherent during the coming season of legislative activity in all the Colonies. It is not that we have a shadow of anxiety as to which cause must triumph that we remind the anti-Unionists of where they stand, and how they are regarded, and with whom hereafter they must consent to be classed. We are perfectly confident of the triumph of the Union cause in every Colony (except, perhaps,