

[CONTINUED FROM LAST PAGE.]

reference to the French share question, the hon. member, Mr. Hogsett, has made an attack upon His Excellency the Governor, and says that he has only his word upon the matter. But he (hon. A. G.) would tell him that he had more, his Excellency's writing, and would have his license, and his Excellency was not likely to issue them unless he was prepared to sustain the parties who would embitter their minds under them. The chief object of His Excellency's visit to England was to endeavour to settle this French share difficulty. He had been constantly at the Colonial office, and the negotiations had only commenced at the time of his coming. The hon. (A. G.) was assured that there was no subject better understood at the Colonial Office than this French share question, as far as our rights were concerned. With regard to Confederation, he would say a little, but not much, as it would come up in a more practical shape before the House. Every one knew that he was in favour of Confederation, and unlike some hon. gentlemen opposite, had never changed his mind upon the matter. He could, at least, give credit to himself for consistency. The time had now evidently arrived when some decided step should be taken, since we found the two great neighbouring Provinces in a pacific state, and that Mr. Howe had accepted the situation, that he who took every means that he legitimately could against the union, now finds it advantageous to his country to accept the position it is in. This measure was one that should not be carried by clap trap or by class or party, but by the general voice of the people. No little change that could take place would benefit us here as we are now situated. As he had stated last year, that a change must be a general upheaving, a total radical one, and not one by which only a few hundred pounds would be saved. Would that give employment, vote enterprise, or benefit the masses of the people? Personally he (hon. A. G.) expected no benefit from it. It was merely the welfare of his native country that he looked to, and if he saw the people prosperous and happy he would be satisfied.

Mr. Parsons had a few observations, to make upon the speech of His Excellency the Governor. That document had been pretty voluminously commented upon, but still there was a little left for him to speak about. We were not to look upon this speech as that of his Excellency, but of his constitutional advisers. He (Mr. P.) regarded the proclamation which refused sustenance to starving people as the cruellest Edict that had ever been issued. Had the Government followed the advice of the opposition, last session, things would not be as they are now. Had the Government been a paternal one, they would not have permitted so much fine land to remain dormant for the want of seed. In this speech he saw nothing that the Attorney General could take credit for. It was all sound and fury, signifying nothing. It was a long document, but it contained no pith. He (Mr. P.) would have expected that some programme of operations would have been developed, and that the old barren cuckoo cry of Confederation would not have been resorted to. He might show that the Government could carry on its affairs at one fourth the costs they do now, for no Colony laboured under such an extravagant Government as Newfoundland did. What resources have the Government opened up for the people? What encouragement have they given? The fisheries were the basis of our prosperity. Was it not, then, the duty of the Government to regard these of paramount importance? When the fishery failed, what had the people to rely upon? And yet the Government could issue a proclamation, telling those starving wretches that nothing will be given them. He would rejoice by, an' by, to see the hon. and learned Premier on the hustings, with his Proclamation in his hand, as a proof of his humanity. It was the duty of the Government to see that the people were comfortable, and not in a state of famine. The result of the Proclamation shows many were breathing their last on account of it. If the miseries of the people could be gathered up and placed upon their heads, what a responsibility would be theirs. He (Mr. P.) would not be in their jackets for anything. He was indeed surprised at the Premier, surprised that there was not more of the milk of human kindness in his bosom. Last session we were under the impression that seed potatoes would have been given. If we had not believed that the House of Assembly would have set longer than it did. But no, the Premier's promise in that matter, as in poor Connell's was broken. But we'll hear of Connell yet before the House closes. He (Mr. P.) thought that the question of Confederation had last year received its quietus, and could not see why it should now be revived. Let the hon. and learned leader of the Government bring down whatever terms he pleased he would never induce him (Mr. P.) to agree to this Confederation. At any time we could bind them by any terms, if at any future time they should find it to be their interest to set aside these terms? If the hon. and learned gentleman intends to carry any terms through the House this time, he will have a very long session of it. He (Mr. P.) understood that those who had settled upon lands under the conditions of the Act mentioned by His Excellency, were not much encouraged or cared for by the Surveyor General, who allowed them to settle down without any attempt at shadow of system. This was a great grievance. Townships should be laid out, and parties obliged to build and to occupy land so as to give to their neighbours equal chance. He (Mr. P.) understood that in Musgrave Harbor, for instance, the settlers were permitted to build where they liked, and to occupy as much land as they chose. This, if true, was not as it should be. The Surveyor General should be instructed to lay out proper townships, and to give every facility and encouragement to those who settle on and cultivate the land, for the country can never be prosperous or happy until the greater part of it is subdued and brought into a state fit for cultivation. The country has all the natural resources which should make it rich, independent, prosperous and happy. He would take another opportunity of referring to the speech of His Excellency.

The motion for a Select Committee to prepare an address in reply to the speech of His Excellency, was then put and carried. The Committee to consist of Messrs. Godden, Barron, Frowse, Little and Kavanagh.

The hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL gave notice that, on to-morrow, he will move the appointment of a Select Committee.

Mr. HOGSETT gave notice that, on an early day, he will move the House into Committee of the whole on the subject of British Rights on that part of the Island called the French Shore.

Mr. HOGSETT gave notice that, on to-morrow, he will ask the hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House all Despatches from His Excellency the Governor to the Imperial Government, and all Despatches received by him on the subject of British Rights on the French Shore.

Mr. REXFORD gave notice that, on to-morrow, he will ask the hon. Colonial Secretary to lay on the table of the House a detailed statement of the expenditures of \$31,000 by the Commissioners of the several Districts of the Island, for 1883, showing the names, number in family, place of residence, amount annually allowed to each family, and the manner and character of payment.

The House then adjourned until Monday, at 3 o'clock.

NOVA SCOTIAN POLITICS.

(From the Saturday Review.)

From the commencement of the repeal agitation in Nova Scotia we have never doubted that the practical good sense of the colonists would ultimately lead them to a sensible conclusion. That they are a real ground of complaint against their own leading politicians and their Legislature for pledging the Province to a scheme which was not approved, perhaps because it was not understood, by the majority, was acknowledged by impartial friends of the Confederation movement; but practical men who felt that they have a grievance will prefer to apply such remedies as are possible to wasting their energies on barren agitation. All the agitation in the world will fail to undo what has been done, because the interests affected are so various that there is no single power competent to cut or untie the knot. And, as we anticipated, the Nova Scotian separatists are beginning to see this, and to direct their efforts to the improvement of their position in the Dominion, instead of indulging in the hopeless dream of an impossible Repeal. The pioneers of the backwoods and the mechanics of the Atlantic ports are too shrewd to miss the substance while plunging after the shadow, and though their feelings of indignation are not yet cooled down, they are sufficiently amenable to reason to see that by judicious negotiation they may make their grievance do them the best of service by ameliorating the conditions under which they have been admitted into the Confederation.

A letter by Mr. Howe—the leader, if not the creator, of the Repeal agitation—which has been published in the Canadian papers, affords very satisfactory proof that we did not give the Nova Scotians credit for more good sense than they possess. As soon as the discontent of the little Province became known, there were a number of American politicians who thought they saw a good opportunity of detaching what is perhaps the most important section of the Dominion from its allegiance, and the most cordial invitations were covertly sent to the malcontents to proclaim secession and throw in their lot with the United States. As the taxation and tariff of the United States were ten times as burdensome as those which formed the chief ground of complaint against the Dominion, there must have been nothing very attractive in such a proposition, even if the Nova Scotians had been able and willing to "cut away from the apron strings of the good old mother the Queen," as their Yankee friends advised them to do. The upshot was that, beyond a few insincere hints at annexation by some of the extreme members of the Repeal party, who soon found themselves compelled to disclaim any disloyal intentions to the project which had been hatched in the United States, the whole without influence on the Nova Scotians. If they were discontented they were neither disloyal nor idle, and they must have been bold to desire absorption in the Great Republic. It seems, however, that the Washington sympathizers could not bear to give up their vain aspirations, and one of them accordingly wrote to Mr. Howe to inquire whether he had really abandoned his opposition. The reply does the highest credit to the plain good sense and genuine patriotism of the Nova Scotian leader; and proves that he is more in him than goes to make up the character of the ordinary demagogue. Mr. Howe tells his American correspondent, in the first place, that the Nova Scotians will listen to no suggestion of civil war or rebellion; and that he, of all men in whom the people of the Province so fully confided, will be too careful of his and their reputation to plunge the country into an idle insurrection. He ridicules, as any man of ordinary intelligence must ridicule, the idea that Great Britain could or would hand over the seaboard of the new-formed Dominion to a rival and not always friendly Power. He dwells on all the efforts of himself and his party for the last two years to obtain the repeal of the British American Act, admitting that they have failed, and is obviously conscious that they could not possibly have succeeded. In this situation he says that he would be justified in laying down his arms and abandoning the struggle, but that he had determined nevertheless to labor on, in the interests of the country, to strive to "make the best of a bad business, and to recover what may be recovered out of the wreck of the old provincial organization." One can pardon the lurking bitterness of such language for the meretricious common sense of the policy proposed.

When we see that the same policy is recommended by the British Parliament, by the Government of the Dominion, and by the leader of the Nova Scotian Repealers himself we should be greatly wanting in faith if we doubted of its ultimate triumph. It is very possible that some of the results which Mr. Howe has intimated may refuse to follow him when he offers counsel of wisdom and moderation, but it will be strange if he does not carry with him sufficient strength to constitute in conjunction with the bulk of the Unionists, a party of overwhelming strength, able to do justice to the fair claims of the Province. The conclusion of Mr. Howe's letter deserves to be quoted verbatim:—"Let us hear no more," he says, "of fanciful projects and impossible remedies, whether they come from impatient people in the midst of good-natured friends beyond the borders. Nova Scotians have established some reputation for common sense, let us exert it in attempting only the possible. The future is in the hands of God, who has tried and may yet try us severely. Let us not forfeit his protection by foolish aims to madness, but set resolutely about, each in his own way and according to his gifts, the work that remains to be done, and that is to confine our prospects of a favorable change to our own energies and resources, the lessons of the past, casting their shadows upon the future, might well induce us to despair. But a change has been proposed beyond our anticipations, above our counsels, new to our ideas and experiences—a change that opens up for us a future great in its proportions and brilliant in its aspect, beyond all that we could have conceived—that future may share the uncertainty of all that is to come, but it is free from gloomy delusions of the past. The future thus proposed to us is Union with the British North American provinces."

W. G. B. P.—Read W. G. B. P. in our advertising column. It is worth the attention of all House keepers. Get a Package at Messrs. McMurdo & Co's, and prove it for yourself.

USE WOODS' WORM LOZENGES. See advertisement in another column.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Disorders of the kidney, known by the deeply-seated pain in the back and scanty secretion of water, can be treated in their distressing and rapid course by these regulating Pills. Their highly tonic and strengthening properties prevent the impoverishment of the blood and the derangement of circulation, characteristic of kidney disease, and often leading in partial or general dropsy. Experience has proved the almost unvaried success obtained when Holloway's Pills are taken in the earlier stages, and the ease they afford when the complaint is more advanced. They relax the hot and parched skin, overcome the attendant constipation, induce a copious secretion by the kidneys, and are the harbinger of disease departing and health returning.

ATTACK AND DEFENCE.—The moment that disease is developed, the vital forces are arrayed against it. In order that they may conquer, re-inforce them with Holloway's Ready Relief. Nature, thus assisted, will be enabled to repel the first assaults of fever, and to triumph over pain. A single dose of Relief will prevent a long and dangerous illness, if administered early enough.

Price 50 cents per bottle. Sold by Druggists.

The Newfoundland.

ST. JOHN'S.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1889.

THE Assembly was engaged yesterday chiefly in a discussion on motion for appointing a new Sergeant-at-Arms. Various subjects were introduced into the debate, which was accordingly protracted to a late hour. The result was the election, without division, of Mr. John Barnes as Sergeant-at-Arms, at \$75 a session.

Professor Bell delivered a most interesting and instructive Lecture at the Athenaeum last evening on Canada and its resources. The lecture room was unusually crowded throughout, the audience exhibiting both in number and in attention the more than ordinary interest felt in a country with which most of us hope for speedy connection. The general feeling was one of great satisfaction with the learned Professor's account of Canada and its capabilities, his information being all the more valuable as the result of personal travel and experience.

REGULATIONS FOR LENT.

We are requested to announce that the following (being last year's Lenten Regulations) will be also the Regulations for the ensuing Lent within the Diocese of St. John's:—

1. Every day except Sunday is a fast day on one meal and collation.
2. Flesh meat is allowed at one meal on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays and on St. Patrick's day, except the first four days of Lent and the last six days of Holy Week. But fish and flesh are not to be used at the same meal.
3. Eggs (except Fridays) butter, milk, cheese and white meats, are allowed at one meal every day, except Ash Wednesday, Spy-Wednesday, and Good Friday.
4. The aged, the young under 21 years, those obliged to hard labor, the sick or weakly, nurses and women about to become mothers are exempt from the fast. In cases of doubt you can consult your Confessors who are empowered to give the necessary dispensations.

St. John's, Feb. 1, 1889.

BY TELEGRAPH.

LONDON, Jan. 28.

Official despatches announce a Battle had taken place between the British troops and the Maori Rebels at Poverty Bay. Lutter were defeated with great loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners. The victory had restored tranquillity to that part of the colony.

Ernest Jones, the well known politician, died yesterday.

MADRID, Jan. 23.

The Government of Spain has laid claim to all the libraries, archives, and works of art possessed by the churches, as the property of State.

It was while carrying out the order of the Government that Gen. Burquez was assassinated—intense excitement.

Violent demonstrations have been made in this city against the Papal Nuncio, and the Government has withdrawn its official recognition of his diplomatic character.

NEW YORK 23th. Gold steady, 135.

CONFEDERATION.

(To the Editor of the Newfoundland.)

Sir,—The object of my letters to you was to shew the necessity of a change in the condition of this country, and in asserting this necessity I am at variance with no one who has fairly considered or discussed our position. At another season the question might well be asked, What change can be devised that would benefit us? Have we not tried everything from Imperial legislation to Responsible Government? Upon this latter have we not rung all possible changes, proved all possible combinations of parties without other result than persistent decline in the scale of prosperity? Has not each successive grade of our descent been clearly defined by the introduction of some new, or the modification of some old Government? And has not all that we have done but proved our inability to do anything useful? All this is the sad but incontestable truth, and if in the present crisis we had not confined our prospects of a favorable change to our own energies and resources, the lessons of the past, casting their shadows upon the future, might well induce us to despair. But a change has been proposed beyond our anticipations, above our counsels, new to our ideas and experiences—a change that opens up for us a future great in its proportions and brilliant in its aspect, beyond all that we could have conceived—that future may share the uncertainty of all that is to come, but it is free from gloomy delusions of the past. The future thus proposed to us is Union with the British North American provinces.

The question of Confederation, as applied to us, resists of its own strength and weight, all attempts at absolute rejection, it forces us to the point of determining how to accept it with the best grace and the most profit. The intelligence of the community has long since grasped this conclusion, and with the exception of a few who deal in ominous warnings while the people hunger for solid arguments, a few who wish the people to foresee their fate, after the fashion of the simple shepherd Melbaeus, in the croaking of some raven from a hollow oak,—

"Sape hinc sinistra praeclit cava ab illic cornu."

With the exception of those few, all others are prepared to accept Confederation on rational terms. So the state of the question as at present proposed to the country is simply this, as we must have a change and as Confederation is proposed to us, what good or harm is it likely to do us.

Have thus co-ordinated the general argument of former letters in order to keep the question clear and connected before your readers' minds; now I will attempt to answer the question of the country, taking up the thread of the discussion where I left off.

OUR LANDS.

I stated in my last letter that our lands (meaning the most valuable portion of them) no longer belong to us as a people. They have been appropriated at a nominal price, or at no price at all by individuals amongst us who can never, in all human probability, turn them to the slightest account. The proof of this statement may be found in the archives of the Colonial Building. Without questioning the legal rights, under existing enactments, of those persons to the lands they have appropriated, we must feel that these lands now virtually lost to the people would, in the hands of an intelligent and wealthy Government, become sources of employment and prosperity to us. If the day should ever come (and it is fast coming) when this country shall be pronounced by the world a region endowed by Providence with riches of His own making—if, while the seas refuse their tribute, and poverty reigns supreme, we might still look forward with hope to a time when our mother earth shall open up her bosom to supply our cravings, we could then have pride in the future and comfort in the present, even if left to ourselves. But while the people are beggared, the Government shackled, the land doomed to desolation, no such hope can beam upon us—the country's breast is closed to us, and the children of her womb are famishing.

The Government of Canada must be a strangely obtuse one if it does not see the necessity of putting an end to the monopoly of mineral lands in all parts of the Dominion, and of refusing those indiscriminate grants that alone would turn a rich country into a desert. As to increase of agricultural enterprise here, that is a thing that time, necessity, and example will bring about, and Confederation will, in every sense, help on the good cause.

OUR TRADE.

Great as are the defects of our trade system, they do not depend entirely upon the merchant, but chiefly on the nature of our produce and the peculiar occupation of the people. The whole trade is precarious—it is a lottery in which there are many blanks, and it is hard to insist upon any rule for it except what guides the science of chance. The merchants are undoubtedly the most important body of our country, and in the circumstances in which they are placed, have, as a body, done their part fairly and honorably enough. Profit is the very life, the first cause and final end of the business they are embarked in; but while regarding that keenly, they have certainly done more for the people and the country than any other set of men in the community—behold the benefit that results from their business transactions, they are ever found foremost among contributors to works of charity and civilization. To them then I appeal as the true arbiters of the question of Confederation from the point of view of trade—do they believe that the Union of this Colony with Canada will injure them or their dependents? What one advantage they now possess can be wrested from them by Union with Canada? What project they may contemplate can be frustrated, what course they may choose to take can be checked by the interference of the Dominion Government? Must not our trade, on the contrary, like that of all other countries known to history be improved by a extension of dominion, by a free influx of all the commodities by which trade is sustained, by an intelligent and careful examination of the channels towards which it should be directed, and by those guarantees of wealth and power which alone can protect its honor and secure its success? Under Confederation nations will open their markets cheerfully to us which would hardly trust us at present, and inter-commercial treaties will be available from which now we are precluded. To prove this I have but to instance two facts—the one, that Confederation besides giving us a market duty free in Canada for our produce, and free importation of all commodities from any part of the Dominion we may choose to trade with—besides all this, will ensure for us the benefit of Reciprocity of trade with the United States, a benefit we are now deprived of, and not likely to regain if we remain in isolation and obscurity; it won't pay for large countries to be entering into inter-commercial treaties with petty communities, especially such as this, which has but one species of produce; and the reason is that such petty communities must export to their rich neighbors if they want to live, so the rich neighbors need make no concessions to them such as are always contained in Reciprocity treaties. Canada can exist without the States, and the States without Canada, but Newfoundland cannot exist without dependence on food-producing countries, so the sooner she becomes part of such a country the better for herself; and unless her legislators and her people set to work to free her from her soil all they require for food, and conjure up a swarm of needy herds and busy factories to supply them with clothing, unless they can do this (and I admit it will be better than Confederation or anything else) all bluster about independence and our liberties is simply ridiculous. The second fact that shows how our trade would improve under Union is drawn from the visit of a Canadian Commission to the British and West India a few years ago. We were not represented on that commission, though, as shown by the very report of the Canadian, was incomparably more important to us than to any Province of North America. Magnificent concessions were made by the Southern Empire and Colonies to Canada, brilliant prospects of trade were opened up, concessions and prospects that would since more largely benefit Newfoundland, whose name made such a figure in the report, if it had been Canada or a part of Canada, as it will become by Confederation. I have no time to refer accurately to the report, but it is in the hands of most of our leading citizens, and it proves that Canada is prepared to exert intelligence and expend money (what we could not do) for the encouragement and extension of her mercantile interests.

TAXATION.

The "greatest" cry raised by the only one that really alters the nature of taxation. It is assumed by Confederation Canada is to be a slave, bind us hand and foot to work and stand for her household, but only the consequences of the mental fact are the advantages which the sleek and meagre wolf in the fable, we are made comfortable when we scorn the political postulate, it requires a radical illustration, the great illustration of the fact of Canada is the certainty that the question to put before the Canada will impose taxes on will over tax us, or give us a choice? If anti-Unionists are alarmed at once justified, but I do so. There can be no project of a social contract without to enter society to be subject to its laws in life. General rights, they are bound Government that rules them, are bound to pay for the bread purchase in the shops. If any the obligation of paying taxes, himself to that state of solus before society had been formed described by the poet.

"Cum primis iraprarum metum et turpe pecun."

People must be taxed all the rational man ever yet argued, only the abuse of taxation, and it is hard to understand how anti-unionists have become inattentive to overboard these provisions that Confederation will not mangle taxes we now labor federation none of our provisions the now usual phenomenon of becoming suddenly, as if by magic, to amuse us for the future Canada could possibly impose even the taxes our reports, will fall upon those who can not the poor man need have, no doubt.

Your space and my own leisure to enter more deeply upon this interesting question connected with the letter. I had intended a special Education under the D. but relinquish the idea until I have time to meditate sufficiently on it. I will only remark that both D. are free and flourishing in towns are supplied with colleges, produced eminent men in every and attracted youth even from national establishments are of it is generally admitted that education is extended, in Canada than in any other country, and a government that has successfully at home this chief cannot fail to promote it here of its Dominion. As to Religion and Religion were nothing to the Canadian Catholic Church is no glory to be connected with it of its name and virtues.

I have now finished all I can for the letter. I have written it all I have not communicated that I have at least pleaded impotence to fail of import to this country very miseries make it inter-entangled, while it has stronger effect and affection of its children.

Viewing the great Union project independently of questions of law we are sensible of a sort of just adopt it. Twenty thousand I will not make Newfoundland who is till she drifts into the current industry. Confederation is not a social one, ours is a disease of curing, will only aggravate it, we want those things that buy, industry, self-dependence, active races that surround us, conferred by union, union of rights, and union of interests.

Jan. 30, 1869.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

11—Glancus, Clyde—J & W St. 15—Perseverance, Brazil—P & Angola, Barbadoes—Bowling B. William Stairs, West Indies—N 20—Koodoo, Brazil—P & L T.

Commissariat.

SEALED TENDERS, in Duplicate, to be received at this office, until the 8th inst., from persons who contract for the supply of

TIMBER.

for the Royal Engineer Department two years from the 1st April next.

This Contract may be terminated at any time within three months on three the first of the month being given Contracting parties.

The respective Schedules, with Contract, may be seen at the office of the Royal Engineer, from whom other information can be obtained.

The tenders to express the above or below the rates named: Army storing, and to be addressed to the Commissariat Officer.

Security to the amount of £5,000 required for the due fulfillment of the contract.

Payment will be made quarterly by the Treasury, at 10 per cent, certified, amounting to £25,000, on a Local Bank in and under cheque on a Local Bank in and under.

Commissariat, Newfoundland, St. John's 1st, February, 1889. (S. Gued.) A. FULL

[Gazette, Times.]