

ments of progress—ought not to be denounced by the Government. If their deeds were not evil they should not fear the light of free discussion.

The Government unable to fill up the offices; the people refuse to endorse their policy, and unable, also, to dismiss officials after attempting to do so. His Excellency very properly holds his imbecile advisors in check.

The York election—a fair criterion of public feeling all over the Province. Replied to Fraser and Hatheway, as to the influences at work in York which caused return of Fisher.

The Government to blame on the Governor's salary question. The Private Secretary continues to receive full amount, and the principle of drawing on the Province for the larger amounts, so strongly condemned by the *Freeman*, still continues.

The delay in calling the House, unwisely, especially this year, when important laws had expired. Tilley and Fisher should not be blamed for not coming earlier to their rescue. Such an act of kindness could scarcely be expected.

Gibson's land ought not to have been brought to sale till a formal notice of rescinding the former order had been published. The Surveyor General, last Session, stated that the Government had not then concluded as to this matter. Now they say, the order lapsed when the Inter colonial Railroad Act expired. Five thousand acres of the land surveyed for Gibson advertised in name of other parties. The public deceived. Twenty-seven acres granted at the head of Nashwaak River, which commands the business of St. Mary's Lake, which was not offered at public sale at all, said to have been given to make up for some deficiency.

The Attorney General cannot blame the Opposition Press for furnishing timely information of the Fenian conspiracy; he is now the greatest alarmist himself on this subject. We are now asked for concord and harmony in view of this emergency. The Attorney General finds "emergencies" sufficient to enable him to get the loaves and fishes; but such appeals are too transparent.

The famous Minute of Council, undignified, untruthful and insulting.

The Judges appointments condemned. The claims of Wilmot unjustifiably overlooked. The despotic conduct of these men in the exercise of "a little brief authority" cannot be sustained by the people.

The Attorney General's present Confederation policy examined, and the "checks," or "equivalents," which he proposes for representation by population alluded to.

The "Dorchester Scheme" vs. "Quebec Scheme" contrasted.

The inconsistencies of Attorney General and Chief Commissioner of Works, the best illustrations of *professional politicians*. "Everything by turns, and nothing long."

The former objections to Union removed, and the manifest tendency of the times, illustrated by a reference to concurrent events.

"Something must be done quickly" or the present unpopular Government will ruin the Province, "politically, commercially and financially." The ship of state, with its mutinous crew, will soon be wrecked, involving the loss

of the peoples' best and dearest interests, unless placed in charge of another captain and more reliable men.

[Mr. McClellan addressed the House for about three hours; but owing to our unfortunate misunderstanding about reporting, we are unable to furnish more of this speech than some of the leading points.]

Hon. Mr. GILMOUR said he was pleased to hear his hon. friend, Mr. McClellan say that if the Government were all right on the question of Confederation, he would not feel bound to vote against them on any of the minor charges which had been preferred at this time. He thanked his hon. friend for the complimentary allusion which had been made to him; personally they had been on the most intimate terms for ten years, and had, until the last election, acted together in politics, and if there was any circumstance which he regretted, it was that his hon. friend and himself differed in reference to Confederation. There was no member with whom he should be more pleased to be associated than with him. He should not trespass long upon the time of the House, for he was quite sure that he could not make a speech which could for any length of time be interesting. The Government, of which he was a member, were now upon their trial. He had listened to the charges and denunciations which had been made without any feelings of alarm or fear; first, because he knew that he had endeavored to do his duty, and that it had been done in such a manner that the public interest had been carefully guarded, and whatever the result of the vote might be, it could make little difference to him personally. For he valued the honorable position which he held only because it was an evidence of the confidence of the people; he was not in need of its emoluments, he was not charmed with its honors, and not at all in love with its responsibilities. One would suppose that some of the Opposition in the House, and many more out of it, imagined that the Government had done some great injustice to the late Government; such was not the case; in the words of the famous Memorandum of Council, the late Government were parties to the Quebec Scheme; they submitted it to the people in their own way and at their own time, and it was rejected, and in rejecting it they rejected its advocates. The present Government had no concerted action during the elections; each discussed the question in its own way, and he should trust fairly and honorably; and no matter how highly the services of the late Government had been valued, the most of them had been defeated, and their services had been dispensed with. If any injustice had been done to them, they had to blame their own constituencies and not this Government. He had no apology to make to the late Government or any member of it; he never wronged them either individually or collectively, and neither was he under any obligation to them; he thought if the accounts were balanced, they would be largely indebted to him, so far as political favors were concerned. It was true, as the Attorney General had stated, that most of the members of the present Government

were called hastily and unexpectedly to a seat in the Executive Council, and a generous public would not expect new men to be just so ready in all the duties of an Executive as men who had been for years directing the affairs of the Province; but while they had not their experience, neither had they learned the art of mystifying and humbugging the people.

Without any wish to operate upon the sympathies of hon. members or the people generally, he would refer for a few minutes to some of the influences which had been used against the Government. First, he alluded to the press, the most of which had been not only in favor of Confederation, but in direct opposition to the Government. He was aware that some portion of the religious press had been devoted to advocating Confederation, but other portions of it had exerted all their influence against the Government, and had not hesitated to scatter through society "firebrands, arrows and death."

He was not one of those who would, if he could, exclude the discussion of important political questions from religious journals, but they should be expected, from their high and holy calling, to urge a calm and dispassionate consideration of any important matter, and to endeavor to operate upon men's reason and judgment, and upon the better part of human nature, but some of them, he regretted to say, had pursued an entirely different course. He had no disposition to say anything disrespectful, and should leave them to their own reflections, which he was sure, in their calm moments, must punish them more than anything which could be said of them; but there were some honorable exceptions. The secular Press had pursued a course of opposition unprecedented in the history of this or any other Province, and if the "liars have their place," he pitied the men who had prompted and published such base and calumnious falsehoods. They had learned the art of lying and misrepresentation to perfection, and would be entitled to a first class certificate for those qualifications. They had acted upon the principle of throwing dirt in the most plausible acts of the Government and the papers had teemed with the continued strain of personal abuse, slander and misrepresentation, and when such characters call a man a fool the public are to understand him to be an honest man, and one who will endeavor to do his duty. Their humor means scandal and falsehood. Patriot—one who wants to humbug the people and get into office. Promises—means nothing. Rogue and rascal—means a man of a different political party from themselves; in fact, the public should understand them, to get at the truth, to mean exactly the opposite of what they say. Such papers had been spread broadcast over the land, at whose expense he was not prepared to say, but he could say, that none of the public money had been used since the present Government came into power, to subsidize the Press. In connection with a portion of the Press there had been employed an organized band of sneaks, who had no taste for anything that was decent or good, who would see nothing to please in the most lovely landscape.