operations during the past year were everywhere unprecedentedly unprofitable, showed a very favorable result. The Company declared a dividend of 20 per cent. on their paid capital; after which the following persons were chosen Directors for the current year, namely:—Messrs. John Cairns, J. W. Falconer W. T. Morris, Benjamin Williams, John Ross, James Barrett, and John Quirk.

J. W. FALCONER, Sec'y.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE MECHANICS' FISHING COMPANY.

In submitting the first annual Report of their working for the past year, your Directors are happy to be able to appear before you with so favorable a balance sheet, showing the amount of £300 in favor of the Company, as the result of our operations during the past year.

Considering the various difficulties with which your Directors have had to contend, this result is most gratifying. Your Directors would ask the Company to bear in mind that, in undertaking the management of your affairs, they did so with but little experience in such matters, and had, on many points, gradually to feel their way, and perhaps occasionally learn something by *bitter* experience. It must be borne in mind that fishing operations on our coast have been followed during the past year with unprecedentedly poor results, no Company, so far as known to us, having paid even working expenses, and many private individuals, who were thus engaged, have also lost heavily by their transactions.

In addition to these drawbacks, your Directors would simply remind the Company that they have been placed at a disadvantage, when compared with past years, from the large amount of duty requiring to be paid on account of the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty. The large amount of £250 has by us been paid as duty during the past year.

In view of these and many other difficulties which might be mentioned, your Directors consider that they may well compliment the Company on the satisfactory position in which the affairs now stand.

No doubt your Directors have had their shortcomings, and have, in some matters, failed from the want of experience. But, trusting that you will make that allowance to which they are entitled from the difficult position in which they have by you been placed in managing the affairs of the Company for its first year, and hoping that their successors in office may profit by their experience, and that next year's accounts may indicate a still more favorable state of matters, they beg leave to subscribe themselves,

On behalf of the Directors,

JOHN CAIRNS, Pres.
J. W. FALCONER, Sec'y.

January 25th, 1867.

Correspondence.

PUBLIC MEETING AT SOURIS.

Pursuant to notice, a Meeting of the Electors of the First Electoral District of King's County was held at Souris, on Wednesday, the 23rd inst. Our late representatives, the Hon. Joseph Hensley and the Hon. E. McEachen, were present. Notwithstanding the severe snow-storm that prevailed that day, the meeting was well attended.

The meeting was called to order, Mr. Gabriel McDonald in the chair, and the undersigned appointed Secretary. The chairman announced the object of the meeting, which was to select two fit and proper persons to represent the suffrages of this District in the forthcoming Parliament.

The Hon. Mr. Hensley being called upon, rose, and in a very able address, reviewed the most important questions of the day connected with our Colonial Parliament. He reviewed briefly the proceedings of the Government, and spoke at some length on the important question of Colonial Union, bearing upon this Island; he likewise spoke of the Education Act,

Edward Kickham, Esq., was the next speaker. This gentleman spoke briefly and pointedly, and during his address, he showed himself decidedly opposed to the Administration, and a decided opponent to Confederation. He touched briefly on the doings and misdoings of the Conservative Government.

The Hon. Emmanuel McEachen addressed the meeting at considerable length. He reviewed the questions brought before the Government during his term of office—justified his own conduct as a supporter of the Government. He gave a brief account of his "stewardship"—declared himself as firmly opposed to Confederation as ever. He likewise spoke of the Education Act, and considered that it wanted remodelling, and declared himself a moderate Conservative.

Alex. Beaton, Esq., and Mr. McPhee addressed the meeting. Mr. James Moynagh read a very spirited address. On the whole, the Liberal element greatly prevailed.

The following resolutions were then put to the meeting, the first of which passed without a dissenting voice; the second did not pass.

Moved by Mr. James A. McEachen, seconded by Mr. James Moynagh—

Resolved, That the Hon. Joseph Hensley and Edward Kickham, Esq., be nominated by this meeting as the two candidates of the Liberal party, and that we pledge ourselves to support them at the ensuing election. This resolution passed unanimously.

Moved by E. B. Muttart, Esq., M. D., seconded by Charles McEachen, Esq.—

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this meeting that the two members who represented us during the last session be nominated again as candidates for the suffrages of this District. This resolution did not pass.

A vote of thanks was given to the chairman, after which the meeting peaceably adjourned.

DANIEL McDONALD, Secretary.

Souris, Jan. 23rd, 1867.

PUBLIC MEETING AT ROLLO BAY.

According to announcement, a meeting of the electors of Rollo Bay and vicinity was held at Rollo Bay Cross Roads, on Tuesday, the 22d inst, Mr. Daniel McDonald in the chair. The object of the meeting was to select two candidates to represent the District at the forthcoming elections for the House of Assembly.

The Hon. Joseph Hensley, the late representative of the District, was called on. This gentleman addressed the meeting at great length, and touched upon all local political matters of importance, and at the close of his address was loudly applauded. Edward Kickham, Esq., then addressed the meeting as Mr. Hensley's colleague. He spoke briefly—declared himself an anti-Confederate, and opposed to the Government. The Hon. Emmanuel McEachen also addressed the meeting. He spoke at considerable length—reviewed all questions of importance that came before the Government last session, and gave his reasons for supporting the Government as he did. Michael McWade, Esq., Messrs. McPhee, Stephen Campbell, and James Moynagh, each addressed the meeting.

The following resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried with but ONE dissenting voice:—

Resolved, That the Hon. Joseph Hensley and Edward Kickham, Esq., be the two Liberal candidates to represent this District at the forthcoming elections for the House of Assembly.

Messrs. Hensley and Kickham were greeted with three hearty cheers by the meeting. After the usual vote of thanks was given to the chairman, the meeting quietly dispersed.

DANIEL McDONALD, Chairman.

January 22nd, 1867.

To the Editor of the Herald.

SIR,—In these days of political turmoil, every thinking mind can vouch for the veracity of the old adage, which says, "No pen will refuse to write lies." To be thoroughly convinced of this, the reader need only glance at each successive number of the apostate *Islander*, the editor of which, like the simple silk-worm, has been left too long in his nest, so that he has now, in consequence, spoiled all that he has done before.

Every trashy, untruthful communication which reflects discredit upon the Opposition, is certain to find a conspicuous place in the *Islander*. If the reader be inclined to disbelieve this assertion, let him turn to the number which contains the vile and scurrilous letter of an intercepted correspondent. The writer to whom I refer seems to take particular delight in misrepresenting and ridiculing the Hon. James Warburton, without any aggravation whatever. Mr. Warburton is an *honorable* man, a gentleman who is respected by all classes of the people; and his return at the late election would have been certain were it not for Hon. (?) James Yeo's *Ledger*.

That big "Ledger" keeps the noted clerk from attending all political meetings, and for this reason he has a hired reporter who attends them, and is consequently invested with full power to report with minuteness all the proceedings. The reporter is a sea-captain—so-called—who, I am sure, has about has much navigation as is requisite to pilot a boat from Egmont Bay to West Point. That this beardless reporter, whom others style the "phonographic reporter," misrepresents the deliberations of a meeting to his master, need not be wondered at, when we remind the reader that he uses neither pencil nor paper to record occurrences; nor do I believe that he could use them, even if he were provided with them. He should not, in any case, trust his dilapidated memory with lengthy details, for the observer can readily perceive that that faculty has passed its meridian height long ere now.

This distinguished reporter has friends very much like himself, although they hold no such honorable offices as he. The Ledger causes them to go through thick and thin for Mr. Yeo; but notwithstanding all that they will do, the day is not far distant when they shall be made to pay for the "whistle." This is sufficient to show that those who voted for Mr. Yeo are neither "free nor independent;" if they were otherwise, Mr. Warburton would have been returned by a very large majority.

The Reporter and his friends are Joabs in the state, and piercing thorns in the Church, where they will neither lead nor drive unless they have their own way in all matters.

When I shall have a more convenient season, peradventure I will return to the subject again.

Your own servant, in humility,

JOHN O'GROAT.

Grand River, Jan. 18th, 1867.

The Herald.

Wednesday, February 6, 1867.

NOTICE.—All persons indebted to the "Herald" Office whose Accounts have been furnished up to January, 1867, are hereby notified that the same must be paid before the 15th of February next.

EDWARD REILLY.

Herald Office, Charlottetown, Jan. 23, 1867.

THE LAST DITCH.

The corrupt Confederate faction, at present in power, seem to have at length reached their last ditch, and in the very throes of death seek to evoke the demon of religious discord in their own behalf. In order to retain their positions, and to draw the wool over the eyes of the public, a writer in the last *Islander*, who dates his letter from Belfast, but which might more truly be dated near "Mount Edward"—the classic residence of the Popes—contains a long rigamarole of violence in reference to the defunct *Vindicator* and *Protestant*. The plea that is put forward as a justification to excite the passions of Catholics and Protestants, in order to divert their minds from the various important political questions now before the public, is, that an anti-Confederate journal in this city, in giving a list of the candidates for the various districts, incidentally mentioned our name in connection with St. Peter's, and hoped that we would receive the votes of all the anti-Confederates—both Liberal and Conservative—of the District! Truly, this is a cogent reason for the country to go into convulsions of rage, and to return Messrs. Pope & Co. to power! Comparisons are said to be odious, and if we felt "disposed"—as Mrs. Gamp would say—to follow in the footsteps of the insane writer in the *Islander*—we could make some of our Confederate friends wince again on the score of consistency and companionship; but we forbear, because such a proceeding has no bearing upon any public question. At the same time the people at large must note the fact, that while the Confederates, for their own selfish purposes, can forget their deadly feuds, and fraternise with each other, and "grease each other's palms," and play into each other's hands, as a matter of course, which no body should object to, an anti-Confederate cannot use common courtesy towards a contemporary without being slandered and misrepresented in the most villainous manner, and the whole country attempted to be set by the ears. Both the *Vindicator* and the *Protestant* are now dead and gone; their faults ought to be buried with them; and no one but a fool or knave would seek to resuscitate them. The country has a more important duty to discharge than to discuss what Mr. Reilly may or may not have done years ago; but it is rather a singular thing that both a Belfaster and "W. E. Clark, St. Peter's, and also the Editor of the *Examiner*, seek to base their political salvation and that of their respective parties upon our connection with the *Vindicator*. Mr. Clark thinks we ought not to get in for St. Peter's, because we once edited a Catholic newspaper; and for the same reason a "Belfaster" thinks that Mr. Clark ought to be preferred, and the Confederates ought to be returned to power. In fact, there never was a poor "fellow" in a more unfortunate position than we are. We are peppered upon all sides; both Catholics and Protestants are attempted to be set upon us; and if the country does not unite to a man in abusing and kicking us, and rewarding the Confederates with the fat of the land, besides finally sending them to Ottawa for life, it isn't because the *Islander* and the Leader of the Government fail to recommend such judicious course. The "Leader," on Thursday night last, made a violent harangue in the Temperance Hall, wherein the very profound, honest and consistent logic of a Belfast "Elector" were used by himself. In fact, we are strongly inclined to suspect that either the Leader or his brother is the same individual as "elector," whose letter is *dated* January 28, but which must, to secure insertion, have been in Mr. Ing's possession previous to, or early upon that day! The air, scope and tendency of the letter are so disreputable and dishonest as to be certain to meet with the disapprobation of every intelligent man in the country. The violence of the pretended elector will assuredly recoil upon his friends, who are forced, as their only chance of deluding the people and holding on for some years longer to power, to resort to such unworthy dodges as the present. In conclution, we would remark that if Mr. Clark is boiling with zeal for the Liberal cause, and wishes to use the *Vindicator* against us, as he seeks to do, among Mr. Webster's friends about St. Peter's, he ought to leave an avowedly Liberal constituency like the Second of King's, and betake himself to Belfast or Malpeque, which he represented before. In either of those Districts he might use the *Vindicator* to his own purposes to some advantage, and perhaps secure his election and thus add one in number to the Liberal Party. But we rather think, after all, that even if he did adopt the course here pointed out, and gave vent to the latent bigotry and low cunning that are in him his past political history would be an unsuperable barrier to his election. That this is the case, he well knows; and we feel assured that St. Peter's will teach him, when this struggle is over, that the man who aspires to be one of her representatives, must be something more than a bankrupt politician, and that his political platform or principles must be something more satisfactory than mean attacks upon our private character, and unworthy appeals to the religious prejudices of any section of people—something more practical than allusions to our having once published and edited a Catholic paper.

FORCE, OR NO FORCE!

The Confederates, in their advocacy of their pet scheme, have always loudly disclaimed against fraud, force or artifice being employed to bring the Island into the Confederacy. We always doubted these protestations of sincerity; but it was rather a difficult matter to prove the Confederates hypocrites. Of course their actions were often inconsistent with their words, and by their actions we arrived at the conclusion that if the Confederates possessed the power, or if the chance presented itself to them to betray or legislate the Island into Confederation in opposition to the wishes of the people, they would not hesitate to do so. The history of the Quebec Convention, the secrecy observed about the Quebec Scheme, the fate of Nova Scotia, the hurried calling in of troops, and, last of all, the history of the $800,000 bubble proves to us that the wishes and interests of the people would have proved a slight obstacle to the consummation of Confederation, if force or fraud could be successfully employed. But fortunately at this important crisis in the history of our affairs, we have more positive proof of the treacherous wishes of the Confederates, if they possessed the power to carry them into execution; and at a time like the present, when a Confederate faction are making the attempt to raise a religious howl for their own especial benefit, and are engaged in the impudent attempt to force a Confederate upon the constituency of Charlottetown, we are especially delighted that we have the most convincing proof at hand of the treacherous designs of Confederate plotterr. If the people fail to give this proof a careful consideration while it is yet in their power to do so, and blindly permit themselves to be led by their prejudices into voting against their convictions, the consequences be theirs. It matters little to us personally—as we have time and again shown—which Party is in power. We do not depend upon a public office for a livelihood, nor have we any ambition to obtain a life office at Ottawa at the expense of the people, and therefore we can have no *object* in advocating anything which might prove injurious to the country, nor can we perceive what benefit we can derive for deceiving the public upon public questions; and therefore in producing the following testimony we hope the public will take these facts into consideration, and seriously ask themselves if the same can be said of the leaders of Confederation. Well a good deal has recently been heard of a pamphlet upon the "Confederation Question," by W. H. Pope, but, as the book is a sealed one in Prince Edward Island, for the reason that its author used the utmost precautions to keep it from the public eye in this Colony, and sent it to England and the Canadas for circulation. The reason for this will be obvious from the extract we are about to make, and we again beg the electors of Prince Edward Island to contrast the language and arguments here employed with those of the *Islander*, in the Temperance Hall or elsewhere, in stump speeches, as to the honorable intentions and conduct of the Confederates:

"There is in Prince Edward Island a small minority—consisting for the most part of educated men—who have the independence to avow that they consider it the duty of the people of the Island to assent to the Confederation desired by Her Majesty's Government, as well as by a majority of their fellow colonists. The masses, however, are hostile to any union, whether legislative or federal, and it may be assumed, that no inducement will cause them to give their assent to union with Canada. The people have been led to believe that the Home Government will not force them into Confederation; and they console themselves with the reflection, that if forced into Confederrtion they will at least be allowed the benefits offered by the Quebec resolutions, and will lose nothing by their opposition.

"The writer assumes it as highly probable, that in a few months an act for the Union of the British North American Colonies will be submitted by Government to the Imperial Parliament. Will this little Island of less than ninety thousand inhabitants *be allowed* to remain out of a Union, which Her Majesty's Ministers—the British public—and the great majority of the three millions nine hundred thousand, who, with the people of Prince Edward Island, comprise Her Majesty's subjects, inhabiting the Atlantic Colonies of North America—consider as absolutely essential to the preservation of the connection of the Colonies with the mother country, and of their Monarchical Institutions—the developement of their vast resources, and their advancement as a great commercial people? *It is very difficult to believe that Her Majesty's Ministers will hesitate to legislate* THIS INSIGNIFICANT BUT MOST TROUBLESOME DEPENDENCY *into the Union on terms just and fair*. The pecuniary advantage of which the Confederacy would be deprived, were the Island to be allowed to retain its independence, would be very trifling indeed, but not trivial would be the evils, which, in the event of such a contingency, would result to the Confederacy. One of these evils may be mentioned. The Island, which is separated from the continent by a narrow strait, would assuredly be made the basis of smuggling operations, which would most seriously effect the revenues of the Confederacy. There is another consideration which, in the writer's opinion, should induce the Home Government to annex the Island to the other Colonies: It is the approaching equalization of the political parties who divide the Colony by their contentions for power, which, in a few years, will result in *dead-locks*, and thus render impossible all useful legislation. In 1859 a general election was followed by the return of a party supporting the Government of the day, numerically greater than the party in opposition by one only. The writer opposed the introduction into the Colony of Responsible Government, and after fifteen years experience he is satisfied that his opposition was well founded.

"Under no other system than that of self Government was it desirable, or indeed possible that the larger Colonies could be governed, but to allow seventy thousand Colonists, chiefly without education, to elect representatives under a system of universal suffrage, and to introduce Party Government, under which every office in the Colony of the value of five pounds a year is bestowed as a reward for political services—on the republican principal, that "to the victors belong the spoils," was not calculated to secure the enactment of judicious laws, or to promote the interests of the Colony.

"The opinion generally obtains among the advocates of Confederation, that the financial adjustment of the Quebec Scheme is *not just* to Prince Edward Island. This opinion is *not*, however, *shared* by the writer. The Delegates representing the other Provinces are, it is assumed, willing to reconsider this question of financial adjustment, and in the event of the Island being legislated into Confederation, it may assuredly be assumed, that Her Majesty's Ministers will not sanction injustice to its people."

Comment upon this villainous article is unnecessary, and we shall simply conclude by observing that the elector who places the slightest confidence in Messrs. Pope & Co.'s honorable intentions, with regard to Confederation and the wishes of the people, must be a very verdant pumpkin, that deserves to be boiled down for his credulity, and nibbled at by the very animals of the field.

THE $800,000 BUBBLE.

When the $800,000 first started into the view of an amazed public, the proposition was represented and believed to be a *bona fide* offer emanating altogether from the Colonial delegates in London. Sometime afterwards, however, the Canadian Ministerial papers began to blab that the proposition originated, in the first instance, with the Island Government. Knowing the composition of our Executive to be largely Confederate at the time, we were not disinclined to believe the Canadian papers; but we never, for a moment, imagined that the Hon. J. C. Pope,—the "Leader" of the anti-Confederates of Prince Edward Island,—the introducer of the "no terms" resolutions of last session, was the father of the whole affair! Recent developments, however, taken in connection with the fact that he was determined to submit the scheme to a special session of the Legislature, and without the direct consent of the people appoint delegrtes to proceed to London to close the bargain, have proved conclusively that he was the prime mover in the matter. The refusal of the Canadians alone fortunately spoiled one of the most cunning designs ever formed to deprive a people of their liberties, and saved Prince Edward Island. The escape which the Island experienced from being served in the same way as Nova Scotia has been, was almost miraculous. Mr. Pope's own confession, in a recent No. of the *Patriot*, fastens the responsibility of that treacherous and inconsistent act upon him. He admits that he was at the Alexandra Hotel in London in November last, and that, in conversation with the Colonial Delegates, he suggested that a money grant of about $800,000 would gain the adhesion of the Island to the Quebec Scheme. *Accident* or business, of course, drove him to the "Alexandra Hotel," where the delegates put up; and accident or business, of course, also drove him to speak about the Financial arrangement of the Quebec Scheme in its bearing upon Prince Edward Island. The ordinary reader, however, cannot fail to observe that as Mr. Pope was committed against Confederation upon any terms, and was invested with no official character at the Alexandra Hotel, and therefore had no right to offer suggestions or hold any communication with the Colonial delegates upon the subject of this Island's dissenting to Confederation. No doubt remains upon our mind that Mr. Pope's conduct was a stealthy proceeding to commit the Island to Confederation. He adopted a sneaking, round-about method to constitute himself a "self-appointed" Delegate, for the purpose of playing into the hands of the Confederates, and to betray the Colony. His own conduct and admissions, as well as the testimony of Canadian journals in the confidence of the Government, conspire to prove, beyond the shadow of a doubt, the Leader's "treachery" in the $800,000 affair. It therefore remains for the people to decide whether a "Leader" who has been once proved of treachery towards the Colony, is the person to be again safely entrusted with power. There can be no doubt that if Canada had acceded to the proposition, or even coquetted with it for a time, the Island would have been included in the Confederation Bill as surely as either Nova Scotia or New Brunswick; but to her prompt refusal to modify the Quebec Scheme—and to that refusal alone, are we indebted for enjoying self-government to-day, and possessing the privilege of recording our votes for our future rulers. Let the electors of Prince Edward Island remember this fact on the day of election, and ponder upon the risks they have already encountered from base deceivers, and those to which they will be subjected in the future if proven traitors are again entrusted with the reins of Government.

THE *EXAMINER* AT ITS OLD TRICKS.

The old saying, that two of a "trade cannot agree," is illustrated in the last No. of the *Examiner*, which affects to regard as a "good joke" our offering for St. Peter's. The real fact, however, is, that he regards it as anything but a joke, or he would not devote three special articles to misrepresenting us; and we think the result of the election will show him that mean falsehoods are a poor stock-in-trade to go to the country with, and that the time has gone by when he could boast with truth that St. Peter's would elect Black Bill if *he* desired it, and that a few kegs of bad rum could buy all their votes. If Capt. Flinn, Martin M'Innis, James Hogan, Esq., or any other honest Liberal had been chosen as his colleague, we would not have entered the field, but these gentlemen were too independent to serve Mr. Whelan's purposes, and he may now be very well satisfied if he gets in himself without his amiable colleague. He has reason to thank our forbearance, too, or he would find St. Peter's too hot to show his nose in. The secret of all his "feverish anxiety" about us is, that our prospects are really so good, and that, if we were elected, we might, perhaps, interfere with his prospects of the Queen's Printership; but that we are not the nominee of any "faction" in or out of Charlottetown, he does not himself seriously believe. Upon a charge of this kind he leaves himself so utterly at our mercy, that we are astonished at his hardihood to attempt to make it. The result of the election will show him that there is no joke at all in the matter, and that abuse of us is no more going to serve his prospects in the future than in the past. The object of our opposition, as well as that of many of the electors, to Mr. Clark, will be more fully made manifest in due time.

The Mechanic's Fishing Company.—The report of this Company, which will be found in to-day's paper, shows the Company to be in a most prosperous condition. Considering the many difficulties with which the Company had to contend, the result of the Company's operations for the past season are more satisfactory than could reasonably be expected, and the dividend of twenty per cent., which has been declared, augurs well for the future prosperity of the Mechanic's Fishing Company. The Company did not commence operations until the season was pretty far advanced, and most of those who comprised its members had little or no experience in fishing. If, under these circumstances, a dividend of twenty per cent. can be declared, what may we not expect in the future from the successful prosecution of a full season's fishing? We sincerely hope and believe that the organization of the Mechanic's Fishing Company will prove the dawn of a new era in the history of the prosperity of the country; and that, ere many years, Prince Edward Island will possess a fishing fleet which will rival that of the Eastern States.

An esteemed correspondent residing at Souris, writing under date of "January 25, 1867," says: "You would be surprised if you were to see the appearance of our coast. The Harbor is quite clear, and not the size of your hand of ice to be seen in any direction. Now, if the Confederates would only separate Nova Scotia and the Island of Cape Breton about twelve miles apart, I would go in for Confederation, for then we would have an open sea all the year round. The passage is so very narrow now that it catches and stops up with ice. Perhaps they could manage to do it, and thus give us an open commerce all the year round." Perhaps the Rev. gentleman who suggested the tunneling of the Straits of Northumberland—and who, by the way, is a great Confederate—might point out to the East Pointers the way to the realization of their wishes in regard to removing Cape Breton from its present position, as nothing appears difficult or impossible to his mighty imagination.

BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Last week we alluded to a scheme of bribery on the part of the Government which, had it been successful, would have led to the expenditure of a large amount of public money for electioneering purposes. The circumstances of the case, as we have learned them from the best authority, are, that the officers and men of the Charlottetown Artillery Company virtually demanded from the Colonial Secretary (the Hon. Mr. Haviland) a reduction in the price of their new clothing, to the tune of about £3 per man, accompanied by the threat that if not acceded to, they would record their votes against the Government at the forthcoming elections. Mr. Haviland was allowed until Monday evening to determine in the matter, and he, without consulting His Excellency, the Commander-in-Chief, or the Executive Council, immediately wrote to Col. Smith, authorising him to issue the clothing upon Capt. Morris' conditions. Of course, if Lieut.-Col. Haviland's instructions to his superior officer had been complied with, the Artillery Company would have received an equivalent of some two or three hundred pounds to which they were not entitled, and if the same bribe were given to all the volunteers and active militia whom the law eventually contemplates to partially clothe at the public expense, it would only cost the country about £3,000 to keep a corrupt Government in power. The bribe having been made known as the act of the Leader of the Government and the Colonial Secretary, the captains of the various other Companies in Charlottetown very naturally applied also for a similar bribe or consideration for their men; but Col. Smith, who has charge of the clothing, considered these demands so extraordinary, that he deemed it his duty to refer them to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. As His Excellency was in profound ignorance of the whole affair, the corrupt attempt at bribery was fortunately nipped in the bud for the present; for, although the presence of Col. Haviland is awaited for in the City as necessary to a final decision in the matter, yet we have every confidence that His Excellency will not sanction any squandering of the public money so liberally placed at his disposal by the unanimous vote of the Legislature last session for purposes never contemplated or provided for, much less corrupt political jobs of any kind. The law is, that a sum equal to about one-half the price of the clothing, be given to each man, and that bonds be required from the Captains of the Companies, but if these bonds are to be dispensed with altogether or lowered every time a threat is made against the Government for the time being, all law and all regulation in reference to the matter becomes a farce. We must say that such a glaring attempt at bribery, on the part of two of the principal officers of the Government, has never been practised in any colony, and it only goes more fully to show how corruptly the monies are likely to be squandered by the faction who usurp the Government. The £50 given to Mr. W. H. Pope for inspecting the barracks or the drill-shed, is only another evidence in a smaller degree of how the public revenue is wasted in dirty jobs, whilst Education and the other branches of the public service are permitted to become inefficient for the want of adequate support.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SECOND ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF KING'S COUNTY.

Gentlemen;

Having been nominated at several influential meetings held in your District, as a candidate for your suffrages at the forthcoming Elections, and the House of Assembly having been now dissolved, I avail myself of the earliest opportunity to say that I accept these nominations. In politics, I need scarcely say that I am a Liberal from conviction, and to that party I will give my hearty support in the future as in the past. All measures having a tendency to ameliorate the condition of the people, and to promote the prosperity of the Colony, will receive my warmest support. Believing that self-government is one of the greatest privileges that can be enjoyed by a people, I have been, and still am, opposed to the Quebec Scheme of Confederation. I am, in fact, opposed to any closer political connection with Canada than that which already exists in a common allegiance to the British throne; but if the Imperial Government should hereafter submit for our consideration another plan of Colonial Union, based upon more favorable terms than those of the Quebec Scheme, I would deem it my duty to refer the same to you before taking any definite action thereon.

Should I succeed, Gentlemen, in my election, whilst I shall always be arduous to serve, to the best of my ability, the general interests of the Colony, my attention will be more especially devoted to the local wants of the District. In conclusion, I will say that, if at any time during my representation, I should be so unfortunate as to forget your confidence, or act contrary to your views and wishes upon any question of local or general interest, I would deem it incumbent upon me, upon being unequivocally notified of the fact, to immediately resign and place my seat at your disposal.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
EDWARD REILLY.

Charlottetown, Feb. 1st, 1867.

P. S.—As it will be impossible for me to canvass you all personally between this and the Election, I therefore purpose holding a meeting at Mr. John Carey's, St. Andrew's, on Wednesday, the 13th inst.; and at Little Pond Schoolhouse, Grand River, on Thursday, 14th, at 3 o'clock, p. m. E. R.

ELECTION NEWS.

The *Patriot* recommends a meeting of the anti-Confederates of Charlottetown to nominate candidates for the City This ought to have been done long ere now; but as the time is not yet too late, we hope the suggestion will be carried out without delay, and there can be no doubt that two staunch anti-Confederates will be elected without any trouble.

The Hon. T. H. Haviland has been electioneering in Georgetown for the past week. He met with considerable opposition. It is believed that two anti's will be elected for that constituency—the one a Liberal and the other a Conservative.

Cardigan, or the Third District of King's County, is about to be honored with a half-a-dozen candidates,—the last in the field being Mr. Munro, whose card will be found in to-day's paper, and L. Owen, Esq.—The Third District had better look sharp, and unite to return two good Liberals, anti-Confederates. If those have already been nominated, stick to them.