

the ambition of the best of our younger men!

NOVA SCOTIA OUTSIDE THE TRAVERS.

The local politicians in Nova Scotia were exceedingly sore-put for a cry at the recent general election for the Legislature, and they adopted one that promised considerable turmoil and high feeling. They went before the constituents with the question "Shall we remain a portion of the Canadian Confederation?" Before waiting for the yes or the nay they set about to prove to the people that stagnation in trade, increased burdens of taxation, and an arrest of provincial development had been the fruits of the union. The people seem to have taken the demagogues at their word,—swallowed the fabrications—for the returns show an overwhelming majority for the secessionists.

We do not exactly know what the shallow politicians who brought on this issue expect to achieve; but we are unable to believe that they are imbecile enough to imagine that they can effect a separation of Nova Scotia from the Dominion. The only result will be a further alarm from the central treasury which by courtesy the politicians will designate an "additional instalment of better terms."

It is well to bear in mind, however, that so important a step as separation is not one with which the provincial authorities can finally deal. It is a matter for the federal representatives of Nova Scotia in Parliament assembled; and not alone for those representatives, but for the Commons of Canada at large. Now in spite of all the wind that prevailed through the sea-girt Province during the late elections, the decision of Canada will be this, *Nova Scotia must remain in the Union.* The consolidation of all these Provinces into a nation spreading its arms from the Atlantic to the Pacific was an achievement too great and of too much importance to be at the mercy of a band of incapable and small-souled politicians without public spirit, patriotism or breadth of view. For the past eight or ten years the two miserable factions called "parties" in Nova Scotia have had no policy upon which to argue or "go before the people." It has been a selfish, personal struggle between the Ins and the Outs. Sometimes indeed one party has come to the polls declaring that the "stampage" should be 80 cents per M feet of logs, and that the policy of the other party which fixes the rate at 85 cents per M "is infamous and subversive of the best interests of this country." In the Speech from the Throne the most important announcement that His Honor has been able to make is the statement that "during the past year my government, with a view to giving a stimulus to the propagation of a superior grade of cattle has imported several Leicester rams and a number of ewes." And because they are incapable of bringing forward any more important or more worthy project upon which to go far to undermine the work of the other party, they have committed the crime of infidelity to the conduct of the Province to a party whose policy is too serious for them to have derived any benefit from.

been the gainer in many respects is patent to everybody. For the simple purpose of stimulating her coal production a tax has been imposed upon fuel against which all the rest of Canada has been crying out. To the Dominion of Canada is the Province indebted for the Intercolonial railway and for assistance in the maintenance of other roads as well; and it is well known that Nova Scotia has been almost constantly receiving "better terms" from the Dominion in some fashion or other. The timber lands in that Province are almost entirely exhausted; shipbuilding has waned its wing since steam has become the motive power upon the ocean, and because Nova Scotia has suffered from these causes Confederation is to be trampled from stump to stump, and eventually shattered to its original elements.

Our rebellious sister by the sea now wants to be alone, to be a nation unto herself. Well, suppose that been given to her. She would have the same markets for her fish and timber that have hitherto been open to her. She would not have the same coal markets because Canada would then invite competition, and in the contest with Pennsylvania the distant Province of Nova Scotia would go to the wall. Therefore in the matter of export trade she would lose instead of gaining.

No doubt the stump orator in the late local election declared that his Province would flourish through the importation of cheap goods. But one question arises, namely, How is the province to make up a revenue unless by imposing taxation? If she gets her cottens and her weollens cheaper it could only be by reducing the duty to a nominal figure. But no duty, no revenue; and the Province has now but a scant extent of timber lands from which to draw income. The truth of the matter is, if Nova Scotia were now to get out in the cold, losing her 80 cents per head from the Dominion, with her exhausted forests and exterminated ship-building business, she would starve. She would have neither income nor credit, and her bonds in the market would be no better than waste paper. But to no such pass, however, will this absurd sister come. Too much labor, too much care have been expended in the fashioning of these colonies into a young nation hood to allow our unity, and our fortunes to be made the sport of a band of ignorant, violent and unpatriotic men. We are glad for the credit of the Province to see that the *Herald* and some other organs of opinion are true to their country and their Province. As a whole the Conservative party in Nova Scotia has set its face against the policy of Smash-Up.

"TRUTH'S" WEEKLY BUDGET.

Readers of the present number of TRUTH will find that the promise of excellence which we made has not been falsified. In this number we publish further instalments of "The Broken Seal," a story of much vividness and remarkable insight into the human heart. Wherever the work of Dora Russell is seen it is sure to find appreciative readers. Our Canadian story, "Four Canadian Highwaymen," has now reached a thrilling point; and the manner of living adopted by the robbers in the heart of the swamp, and the various crimes committed by the atrocious band will occupy three or four immediate issues. In connection with this story we may mention that a case came up a few days ago in Osgoode Hall in the hearing of which certain testimony was given bearing upon some of the crimes perpetrated by the band at Markham Swamp, and which are dealt with in our story. We present a few of the progress

of events in Canada since the confederation of the provinces, together with a brief historic reminiscence of the causes which paved the way towards Union. The attitude of Nova Scotia in seeking separation from Canada is discussed. From our contributors we have received good things for this number. Among them we may mention "A Quaint old City" by J. A. L., a writer of much grace and power, who gives us a vivid picture of old Antwerp. "Lollers in England" is the title of a capable sketch by J. A. Kerr, and we commend it cordially to our readers. Likewise we have a South American letter from the pen of O. H. Fewler which is a contribution of much thought. "Observer" supplies many observations that will please and provoke; and he answers two or three first letters which persons interested in his department have sent to him. The selections in this number are made with the usual good taste and knowledge of the reader's desires; "Health," "Young Folks," "Poe's Corner" and "Household" will all well repay perusal. To the lovers of music we commend "Papa's Baby Boy."

All those desirous of seeing a happy settlement of the question now disturbing the heart of the empire will regret sorely the breach that has come between the two noblest men of our time, namely, John Bright and Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Bright does not believe that Mr. Gladstone has weighed thoroughly the plan to which he is desirous of committing the nation; and he has therefore become rather severely critical of the course of his old and revered friend. Mr. Gladstone seems to feel the rupture keenly, and in an address to the electors of Manchester, in referring to the many losses which the Liberals had sustained, spoke these words: "Of all these losses none gave him more acute pain than the loss of John Bright. Although Mr. Bright's conscience had led him to lace himself in opposition to the sentiments of the nation on this question he had shown no eagerness to be first in the ranks of the dissentients. Of course the Government's opponents would not now let Mr. Bright alone. He was too valuable a man. Hence people had seen Mr. Bright giving Mr. Cairne a testimonial of character, and Mr. Cairne had already deplorably misrepresented this testimonial, just as he had the Liberal party which elected him but recently to the House of Commons. This testimonial made it appear that Mr. Gladstone had once condemned the principle of Home Rule. Mr. Bright knew that he (Mr. Gladstone) had never condemned the principle of Home Rule. However, the audience would hear no criticism of John Bright from him. "I have taken a resolution," said Mr. Gladstone, "never to be Mr. Bright's critic. I will never utter a word to disparage the man whose integrity I revere, whose character I love and who has centered upon his country services which cannot be forgotten." In reading the controversy between the great statesman of Great Britain one has to pause and admire the dignity, the moderation and the courtesy with which the contending parties refer to one another. How humiliating it is turning from such discussion to read a page of our Canadian *Herald*, or the report of a batch of stump speeches. For the greater part our public men seem utterly ignorant of what courtesy is; dignity there is never to be seen, and all the laws of discussion as well as those of good manners are trampled under foot. We have, however, in justice to Mr. Blake to say that he has never offended in the manner which we condemn; Sir Leon-

ard Tilley, in his day likewise furnished a standard of discussion which might with profit be imitated; and we have reason to believe that Mr. Thompson, the Minister of Justice, will likewise prove creditable in this respect. It is only fair, likewise, to say that Mr. Mackenzie deserves no censure upon this score.

The *Mail* prints a long article wherein it shows that Sir Richard Cartwright and Mr. M. O. Cameron have had extensive dealings in the North-West lands. One would gather from the article that the transactions were immoral; but we confess ourselves unable to see the matter in this light. It is just as moral and as lawful for Sir Richard Cartwright or Mr. Cameron to apply for a section of land as it is for any other citizen of the Dominion of Canada to do so. Indeed it might seem as if it were much more proper when we come to consider that these gentlemen are opponents of the Government would not be likely to obtain departmental favours. The cases of Sir Richard and Mr. Cameron are altogether different from those which the *Mail* has been seeking to defend. The case of a Prime Minister as king for a slice of the public domain is a different spectacle from that of a bitter opponent of the Prime Minister as king for a grant. We do not say that young Macdonald and Tupper was a bad one; all we do say is that it was very different from that of Sir Richard and Mr. Cameron.

There is a bill upon the question of British Copyright now before the House of Lords. It provides that Copyright secured by an author or publisher in any part of the British Empire, shall hold good for Great Britain or Ireland or for any colony that chooses to accept the Imperial act. This is at least one step in the right direction. But International Copyright is the only measure that can completely meet the case.

The poor Orleans princes have been packed out of France. The Comte de Paris has arrived in England, and was met at Dover with great demonstrations of welcome. We think it very silly that the French nation should have made such a fuss over these poor harmless gentlemen.

Sir John Macdonald laid the foundation stone of a Methodist church at Fallowfield, a small place in his own county. In the course of a speech in which he reviewed the great strides that religion had made he said that "clergymen were the moral police of the world, without bayonet or baton, preaching good-will among men." The Reformers are of the opinion that notwithstanding all the clergy have done for the people that they have not gone far enough with Sir John himself.

We congratulate Mr. James Fletcher, of the Parliamentary Library, Ottawa, on his election to the Mansel society of London, England. Mr. Fletcher is one of our most studious and distinguished Canadian scientists.

The Knights of Labour, seem determined to maintain the bus service. Their struggle certainly has been a stubborn one, and if persistence merit reward they deserve to win.

The pastor of an Independent Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia has been getting himself into trouble by making improper advances to the wife of one of his congregation. He is now held for appearance in \$2000 bail. He declares that the thing is a conspiracy hatched by persons jealous of his influence and popularity. But the Rev. Waldo Meares will find that the courts will take a different view from that.