

of air, is far more refreshing after hard exercise than draughts more potent. But the temperance bigots have a creed of their own, the most striking peculiarity of which is a fixed resolve to impute to men without their ranks the most diabolical motives in every action of ordinary life. Drink a glass of wine at luncheon, and you are told that "you're encouraging drunkenness," have a glass of ale at the Rink, and "you're nourishing a gigantic evil," &c., &c., at infinitum! We confess ourselves surprised at the amount of childish twaddle published in this city upon the question of teetotalism. Let temperance men amuse themselves as much as they think proper, with their G. W. P's, and their T. W. P's, but let them not obtrude their stale platitudes upon ordinary men who use the good things of life without abusing them. The Rink is a club in its way, and as such requires no license,—at least in Halifax. Liquor is not, and never has been sold there indiscriminately. On the contrary, we trust the Rink Managers, sufficiently, to feel assured that men likely to disgrace themselves would be denied tickets of admission.

UNION IN PROSPECT NO. 1.—(UNIONIST.)

MR. GEORGE BROWN.—This gentleman has just returned to Canada, and it would appear while in England, has been the recipient of marked attention from public men of all classes.

Here we have, as it were, a first instalment of the benefit of Union by anticipation.

Our public men begin for the first time to be noticed abroad as they should be. Mr. Brown, it seems, was quite overwhelmed with unexpected civilities. This we need hardly say is a phase of life entirely novel for Colonists in England. So much for Union, *merely in prospect*.

NO. 2. DITTO.

SCENE 1st. *A vestibule in the Colonial Office, Whitehall, enter the P. S. and the L. O. O.*

P. S. You go in first.

L. O. O. No, you go in first. *exunt hustling one another.*

SCENE 2nd. *Interior of Colonial Secretary's private room, the C. S. is seated at one table, his private secretary at another.*

C—l S—y. Twelve o'clock! I have a great deal to do: am I wanted here any longer?

Private Sec. Oh yes Sir. A deputation from Nova Scotia is expected every minute.

C—l S—y. What about? What can they have to say? All these North American Colonies have different views. New Brunswick wants railway communication somewhere. Canada wants me to force, as far as I can, the other Provinces to unite with her. They all seem to have totally different views—only agreed on one thing and that is—to disagree. When these Nova Scotians come (*aside*) I will not talk federation. I'm sick of the whole thing, and have made up my mind on the matter.

Enter a servant announcing THE DEPUTATION FROM NOVA SCOTIA.

C—l S—y. Good morning, Gentlemen, I am most happy to make your acquaintance. Whatever may come of your Federation scheme one thing is certain—it brings to London many who but for its inception (I think that is American) we might never have had the pleasure of meeting. Pray sit down.

P—l S—y. Inception is hardly a fair term, Sir, to apply to the Federation of the provinces. Excuse my boldness but it is already an accomplished feat.

L. O. O. Yes, un fait accompli; but Nova Scotia thinks that New Brunswick:—

C—l S—y. You must excuse me gentlemen if I at present object to any discussion of this Federation business. It were hardly fair for a judge to hold private intercourse with two out of the twelve jurymen on whose decision the life of a fellow creature depended. You were not alone at Quebec, and if any difference between the various Provinces interested was there apparent, there it should have been discussed. Excuse my abruptness, but five minutes reflection will convince you that I am right. On many points you can enlighten me. As Nova Scotians (without reflecting in the least upon the many

able Governors who have represented her Majesty in your province) it is only natural that you should have valuable information upon many minor points of political business, which have not reached us in official documents from your Lieut. Governors.

P—l S—y (*abruptly*). Annapolis has gone against the Conservatives.

C—l S—y *drily*. Has it indeed! excuse me a moment. (*Walks over to Private Secretary and tells him to look out Annapolis on the map*.)

L. O. O. It has long been expected that such would be the case. The electors of that county, long duped by sounding promises, and cajoled, I blush to say it, by the speaker of the Lower House and—

P—l S—y *pushing L. O. O. violently*. Hush, Unionist.

C—l S—y *smiling quietly*. There is not much political rancour in Nova Scotia I believe!

P—l S—y. Oh no—it has quite died out.

L. O. O. *gulping*. Entirely died out.

P—l S—y. It is only natural that it should be so. The leaders of both parties agreed on a great measure like Confederation, no opposition as you Sir may imagine could possibly arise. Indeed to go further, the present government has for some years met with but a feeble opposition.

L. O. O. *whispers to P. S.* If you don't stop I'll speak out.

P—l S—y. There is absolutely no opposition in Nova Scotia to anything which the present government proposes.

L. O. O. *forgetting himself*. How about that School bill! all the articles, all the arguments I used, but for Federation, would long since have—

C—l S—y *very quietly*. Gentlemen I must remind you that we are not met to discuss local politics, (*aside*), if I don't stop them they will be calling each other vipers, (*aloud*) my desire is to obtain from you gentlemen some idea of the state of parties in Nova Scotia. You say that there is no opposition whatsoever to Federation and I am glad to hear it. From another source indeed I heard a different story, but that does not concern us now. Tell me Mr.— Mr.

L. O. O. M—C—y.

C—l S—y. Of course; tell me, is it true that there is a very large radical population in Nova Scotia? You indulge in a manhood suffrage I believe. Other American institutions are in vogue I am told. Your system of tenure of office is faulty—Indeed your late Governor told me that some of your public men were not all that could be desired, and were rather addicted to invective and such things, totally unnecessary I may remark in a free discussion of a subject, be it great or be it small.

P—l S—y. I—d N—y was hardly a fair judge, he could never see things in their proper—

L. O. O. *Interrupting somewhat rudely but for a good purpose*. Place, he longed to do so. He was insulted by the present leader of the Government and I must add was always a good friend to that great party which with all its faults—

C—l S—y *rising and ringing the bell*. Servant enters C. S. orders his carriage and sits down again.

P—l S—y. You may believe me sir when I assert solemnly that there is no such thing as a liberal party in Nova Scotia. It has ceased to exist. The conservatives under my guidance rule the province.

C—l S—y, *practically*. But you have Universal suffrage,

L. O. O. *triumphantly*. Yes and he did it.

P—l S—y. Yes, and I'm proud of it.

Private Secretary being still young in Colonial business faints.—

C—l S—y *risks and rings for help*.

C—l S—y. This is a painful subject gentlemen, the more I see into the details of Colonial life, the more I wonder that their prosperity is such as it is.

Private Secretary recovering, faintly.—Are they gone?

C—l S—y.—I have a pressing engagement, a most pressing engagement gentlemen. Good-bye. *Exit followed by P—l S—y and L. O. O.*

SCENE 3rd. *The Street. Enter P—l S—y and L. O. O.*

P—l S—y *moody*. We made but a poor figure, you would quarrel.

L. O. O. *cheerily*. What matter! We have been noticed abroad as we should be, and even though you lost your temper, we have had the pleasure of half an hour with a Cabinet Minis-