

the warnings of the great American schism was sufficient to exclude any imitation of the institutions of the United States. Instead of entrusting to a central government certain specified powers and reserving to the component States all other attributes of sovereignty the proposal is to allot to the local Governments their special subjects of jurisdiction and to vest what may be called the residual sovereignty in the Federal authorities. In this way it is hoped that the risk of a disruption like that which has rent the United States may be altogether obviated, while at the same time local independence will be sufficiently respected to satisfy the narrowest provincial feeling. \* \* \* Indirectly the Union promises to cement more closely the interests and feelings of Great Britain and her magnificent colonies. In their present divided state, the separate provinces of British North America can scarcely take adequate measures for their own defence and the extreme sensitiveness which they have shown to any reproaches on the subject has been in great measure due to their own conviction that they had borne less than their share of the burden of placing themselves in a position of security by the side of neighbours as strong and as unscrupulous as the United States. The concentration of all authority in military matters in the hands of a Government which will preside over nearly 4,000,000 of subjects will greatly alter their position for the better; and while all the leading statesmen who have taken part in the movement assume (as they may justly and fairly do) that England will not be wanting in the hour of danger they are equally explicit in their avowals that more serious efforts may be expected from such a nation as they aspire to form than any of the separate provinces have yet had the determination to make. Little as it appears on the surface, there can be no doubt that the formidable growth of the military power of their neighbours has been one of the main inducements to the movement, and it may be confidently expected that the consciousness of increased national importance will stimulate the people of British North America to exertions which, in their positions as separate colonies, seemed too much for their spirit or their strength. Perhaps the only serious opposition which the project is likely to meet with is that of a section of the French party in Lower Canada. As, however, the leader of this party Mr. CARTIER, himself, if not the originator, at least one of the most energetic supporters of union it is almost impossible that any dissident fragment of his followers can effectually impede the completion of the measure; and the marked consideration which is shown for the inhabitants of the French colony throughout the Report of the Conference can scarcely fail to diminish the suspicion with which some of them have perhaps naturally regarded the project. In fact, the separation of the two Canadas, as far as all local matters are concerned will remove many subjects of difference in such matters as education which were beginning to threaten serious difficulties in the Canadian Legislature.

### Shipping Intelligence.

#### PORT OF HALIFAX.

##### ARRIVED.

Saturday, Dec. 10.  
Brigt. Elsie, Porto Rico, ballast—to D. Cronan.  
Sunday, Dec. 11.  
Steamers, Glasgow, Gill, Liverpool, bound to New York; Cotnamerco, Stow, Charlottetown, P. E. I. genl. cargo—to J. F. Phelan and others; R. M. S. Canada, Hockley, Liverpool, mails etc.—to S. Cunard & Co.  
Monday, Dec. 12.  
Schr. Foaming Billow, Glasgow, Sheet Harbor—to Geo. H. Starr, & Co.; Lucknow, Smith, Annapolis; Alexander, McKay, Annapolis; Lucy Ann, Budroit, bound to Boston; Eliza, Dido, Pictou; Mary Jane, Cape Breton; Jeane, P. E. Island; Anna, Lahay, Cape Breton; Alexander, P. E. Island; Briggs, Reindeer, Jane, Gammon, West Indies—to N. L. & J. T. West; Rosetta, Sydney—to S. Cunard & Co.; Barq. Kathleen, Boul, Sheet Harbor, bound to Jamaica.  
Tuesday, Dec. 13.  
Schooner, Welcome Return, Sydney, fish.  
Wednesday Dec. 14.  
Steamer, Commerce, returned from sea; Schr. Hero, Crowell, St. John, P. R.—to G. H. Starr & Co.  
Thursday, Dec. 15.  
Schr. Harkaway, Smith, Bermuda—to G. C. Harvey.

#### PORT OF HALIFAX.

##### CLEARED.

Saturday Dec. 10.  
Brig. Rover, Ryan, Jamaica—by G. P. Mitchell; Briggs, Forward, Essex, Jamaica—by N. L. & J. T. West; Milo, Townsend, Boston—by Robt. Beak Jr.; Africa, Sherring, Port Medway—by Master; Robt. Roy, Walsh, Cape Breton—by G. A. V. Faw; Schr. Reindeer, Blagdon, Baltimore—by D. H. Pitts; Osceola, Deal, New York—by J. F. Phelan, J. N. Harvey and others.  
Monday Dec. 12.  
Steamers, Glasgow, Gill, New York—by S. Cunard & Co.; (This Steamer is one of the Inman line and put in here for coals) Canada, Hockley, Boston—by S. Cunard & Co.; Commerce, Stow, Boston—by J. F. Phelan; Alpha, Hunter, Bermuda—by S. Cunard & Co.; Delta, Guilford, Newfoundland—by S. Cunard & Co.

Tuesday, Dec. 13.  
Schr. Magnet, Nicholson, P. E. I. genl. cargo—by E. Albro Son & Co.; Jane Oia, Keating, Port Mulgrave, genl. cargo—by F. Power & Co.; Ripple, Wilson, Turks Island, genl. cargo—by J. H. Willett; Hawk, Whittle, Port au Basque, genl. cargo—by W. Pryor & Sons; Petite Riviere, Dolliver, Port Medway, genl. cargo—by F. Power & Co.; Wm. McLeod, Belliveau, Pubnico, genl. cargo—by Salter & Twining; Mary Ann, Sampson, Arichat, genl. cargo—by A. McLeod & Co.; Sandwich, Haines, Liverpool, genl. cargo—by J. Donohoe and others; Amegent, Nicholson, Port Mulgrave, rum and gin—by A. Drummond; Acadian Lass, Landry, Arichat, Fraser, Sydney, genl. cargo—by Bault Gibson & Co.; Eliza, Joyce, Arichat—by Master; James, Fraser, Sydney, genl. cargo—by J. Lithgow and others; Three Sisters, Miller, P. E. Island, genl. cargo—by Escon & Co and others.

Wednesday Dec. 14.

Schr. Charles D. Horton, Walker, Cornwallis, ballast—by S. F. Barss; Topsy, Atwood, Annapolis—by Master; Janet, Wainwright, B. W. I.—by A. Keith Jr.

Thursday, Dec. 15.

Schr. Sevan, Irish, B. W. Indies—by W. Pitts; Leader, Coloon, Port Medway—by Ryan; Heber, Goodwin, Pulnico—by N. L. & J. T. West and others; Telegraph, Shaw, New York—by Young & Hart; Atlantic, Langlois, Boston—by S. A. White & Co.; Brig, Starlight, Davidson, New York—by R. J. & W. Hart.

Friday, Dec. 16.

Schr. Charles, Keays, P. E. Island; Terah, McNeill, P. E. Island; Sea, Moore, Canoe; Dancing Feather, Provo, River Bourgeois; Elie, Peters, Bear River; Naive, Farnow, Port Medway; Rival, Dunlop, Liverpool; Graham Hopewell, Cape Canoe.

### Local Items.

We have received from Miss Katzman, a copy of *Sketches in Nova Scotia*. We shall notice it at large in our next issue.

**COLONIAL AND CONTINENTAL CHURCH SOCIETY.**—A sermon will be preached, D. V. at St. Pauls on Sunday morning next 18th inst., in behalf of this Society, and a collection taken in aid of its funds. The utility of this Society in the cause of Education throughout the Province calls for increased contributions from its supporters.

**NEWS BOYS ON THE BATTLE FIELD.**—The *New York Herald* in a description of a battle before Richmond says:—“Perhaps one of the most curious features of the day was the presence of the News Boys on the field with the latest papers. While the musketry was at the loudest, while the Artillery was most sonorous, and when the passing bullet with its deadly shrip, compelled one involuntarily to duck one's head, the ragged urchins on horseback might be heard calling forth *New York Herald* in stentorian tones.” No mention is here made of horns. On a field of battle they would be execusable. Let the *Morning Journal* supply its beloved Northern Army with a few. They will not be missed in Halifax.

**THE NEW RAILWAY COMMISSIONERS.**—The report that for the future, tea and cider alone are to be sold at the Mount Uniacke Railway Refreshment Room is premature. Beer can for the present be obtained there.

**WINDSOR COLLEGE.**—We learn with much pleasure, that Her Majesty the Queen, has forwarded to this Institution, a copy of the Speeches of her lamented Consort. The autograph of Her Majesty will give an additional value to this copy of the works of one, whom the Poet Laureate so justly termed “ALBERT the Good.”

**ST. LUKE'S.**—We understand that the ordinary Morning Prayer service will commence at St. Luke's Cathedral at 9 A. M., to-morrow, the Litany, and the Ordination services following at the hour of 11 A. M. We are unable to perceive the wisdom of thus inconveniencing an entire congregation, on the occasion of two more labourers being taken into the Anglo-Catholic Church. We are of opinion that the Ordination Service, being something extra; should take place at an hour, other than that commonly set apart for the ordinary service of the Church.

We are glad to find that our contemporary the *Express* can take a joke in good part, even though such a joke be aimed against itself. We hope to see the day when all our contemporaries will be equally good-humoured. “Bear and forbear,” should be the policy of every journal seeking the public good.

We believe the Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick to be the best abused man in the lower Province. The course adopted by that gentleman with reference to Mr. Beckwith has been shamefully misrepresented by the St. John press. From reliable information we are enabled to give the real facts of the case, which are as follows. A crimp in Fredericton, attempted to persuade two soldiers of the 15th Regiment, to desert. The latter gave information against the crimp, who was prosecuted and acquitted. At the trial a demonstration was made in favor of the prisoner. The Lieutenant-Governor, hearing of this, requested a private interview with Mr. Beckwith, and expressed to that gentleman his astonishment, that with so clear a case against him the crimp had been acquitted. Mr. Beckwith an-