

scores of beautiful natural harbours on the Gulf shore, in which the coasting traveller will any day see the men-of-war of our chivalrous French allies lying as singly and conveniently as ever they do in Halifax harbour. And in Canadian summer waters will float England's fleet, nearest to its work.

Much money has of late years been expended on the fortifications of Halifax—of course under present circumstances, this is thrown away, but some £30,000 or £40,000 has just been voted by the British Parliament in continuation of the same object on the assumption of uses and deserts now proved to be delusive.

This grant must be diverted to Quebec. The heavy guns of late put into position on George's Island, at York Redoubt, Eastern Battery, Point Pleasant, now will come in most useful for Quebec, where the ordinance, by late report, is antiquated and rotten.

The idea of defending the Citadel of Halifax against an enemy landed—say—in Margaret's Bay, is a mere absurdity. Every British soldier now be withdrawn. The Regiments usually quartered in Halifax are needed in Canadian Garrisons. England has heretofore spared Governors for Nova Scotia—the very best men in that branch of her public service. As she can no longer afford effectual support to the higher Satraps, that class of men for Nova Scotia must be discontinued. England cannot permit them to be subject to the disaster and disgrace that their presence might tempt. Am I therefore arguing that the Queen of England is at once to surrender the Sovereignty of Nova Scotia? Throw it up in pet or panic? Not so. I merely say, (since she has made her own election) "Nova Scotia for Nova Scotians." I think I know scores of her sons, good men, enough, well fitted to hold Her Majesty's Commission as Governor of Nova Scotia. I could name one in particular on whom all eyes rest, one who has held the highest Political position in the Province, second in talent and acquirements to none, and were I to mention that worthy son of Nova Scotia who now holds Her Majesty's Commission for the fisheries as a fitting Vice Regent of the Province, there are few, I believe, who would not endorse my feelings and opinion. Under such happy sway it may be well hoped Nova Scotia would be shielded from hostile aggression by her insignificance, whilst England would have her forces concentrated and well in hand to defend herself, and those of her subjects who faithfully and energetically support her views elsewhere.

I have the honour to be, &c., &c.
PHILO—NOVA SCOTUS.

Reform Club, March 28th, 1865.

Local and other Items.

The *Express* of Wednesday last contained an excellent article headed "The Art of Boasting." It might, however, have been improved by condensation—the introductory portion of the article being considerably longer than the remaining portion. We are glad to find the sins of the *Bullfrog* so constantly furnishing our esteemed contemporary with themes for the exercise of fine writing. We regret, however, that so much fine writing should be marred by allusions to the supposed writers for this journal rather than to their published ideas. But unfortunately for the public taste, personality is—in Nova Scotia—preferred to argument, even by those whose education should have taught them better. This is one of what the *Express* calls our "foibles," but, to our thinking, it is a somewhat degrading vice, which cannot even be alluded to save with a sneer of contempt.

THE SUNDAY TRAIN QUESTION IN SCOTLAND.—A correspondence has been published between members of the Sabbath Alliance and Mr. Hodgson, chairman of the North British Railway Company. The chairman closes the correspondence with a letter in which he says:—"The directors do not believe it to be their duty to force that portion of the public who from inclination or necessity desire to leave their homes, or to regain their homes, on a Sunday to conform to the bidding of others who think it sinful to do so. On the contrary, while they do not hold out extra inducements to Sunday travelling by means of frequent or excursion trains at low fares, they consider that limited service by morning and evening trains is due to the public, especially the humbler classes, who cannot, except by railway, move at all. With regard to goods trains, the objections and suggestions contained in the document you have transmitted to me are founded in simple ignorance of the matter under discussion. If every goods train which passes by necessity (and there is not one which, in a practical sense, runs from any other motive) on the North British Railway were taken off the line, the net profit of the company would not be diminished; but the insecurity and inconvenience to the community would during the week days be largely increased."

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of the second number of "Murdock's Nova Scotia"—a review of which will appear in our next issue.

The advisability of fitting out a final expedition to discover the North Pole was discussed at a great meeting of the Royal Geographical Society on the 27th March. Amongst the speakers on the occasion were Sir Edward Belcher, Captains Mc-Cle and Mc-Clintock, Admirals Manby, Collinson, Fitzroy, Dr. Rae, Sir Roderick Murchison and Sir George Back. The last named accompanied Sir John Franklin in 1818 and a few years later, shared the perils and glories of the overland journey to the mouth of the Coppermine river. These great explorers and savants, though they spoke one and all with reserve, urged the dispatch of the expedition, for which, with the increased advantages of modern science in its favor, they anticipate the successful achievement of its object—the discovery of the North Pole.

THE SOUTH WALES IRON TRADE.—The lock-out in Staffordshire and the north of England has sent many orders for iron to South Wales, and the Welsh ironmasters are, as a rule, full of specifications, and the works are in active employ. Stocks are being gradually reduced, and should the lock-out continue for any length of time there is no doubt that prices will advance. As yet the South Wales employers have taken no action in reference to the lock-out, as the ironworkers of the district have not assisted the North Staffordshire men to stand out; on the contrary, they have determined to remain aloof and have refused any contributions. On the other hand, it is feared that the resolution of the various trades' unions to support the men, will induce the Staffordshire and north of England masters to apply to the ironmasters of Shropshire and South Wales to lock-out as well, in order to protect the interests of the trade.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We have received a communication having reference to the management of the City Library, but our correspondent must furnish his name before we can insert his communication. To this rule we can make no exception.

Mr. Holt's Concert of Tuesday last was highly successful.

Extracts.

COLONIAL BISHOPS.

(The Times.)

The judgment of the Privy Council in the case of the Bishop of Natal, which was delivered yesterday, is a document of the greatest interest and importance, treating, as it does, of the whole position, authority, and character of the so-called Church of England in the colonies, and of the persons who assume to bear office in it. No question, it will be remembered, was raised before the Privy Council upon what are called the merits of the case—that is, whether or no Dr. Colenso's opinions were contrary to the Articles and Formularies of the Church. Dr. Colenso raised a prior question as to the jurisdiction claimed by the Bishop of Cape Town. He denied that Dr. Gray had any metropolitan authority over him, and he disputed the validity of the Letters Patent which purported to confer such authority. His counsel pressed this argument so far even to bring it in question whether Dr. Gray had any lawful episcopal authority at all, and an elaborate argument was thus maintained before the Privy Council upon the very foundation of the colonial Churches. The result is that the prayer of Dr. Colenso's petition is granted, and the proceedings of the Bishop of Cape Town are pronounced "null and void in law;" but this judgment proceeds upon grounds which are of much wider application than to the particular case at issue, and will have a rather startling effect upon that elaborate edifice which a certain ecclesiastical party has been of late years erecting with such unsuspecting enthusiasm.

The upshot of the matter is shortly this, that, although the Bishop of Cape Town has no authority at all over the Bishop of Natal, yet, on the same principle, neither the Bishop of Natal nor any other colonial Bishop not created under special legislative provision has any authority over any one else. They are Bishops, and nothing more; they are not Bishops of any diocese or over anybody in particular. If their ordination of itself conveys the capacity of exercising spiritual functions, such as Confirmation and Ordination, they of course possess that capacity; but they have no authority to exercise it. They are, in short, in very much the same position as any clergyman of the Church of England who is not appointed to a definite cure. He is a priest or a deacon, but he holds no local office and has no authority over any one. They are, in fact, as much Bishops in the Feejee Islands as in their nominal dioceses, and, on the other hand, they are to no greater extent Bishops in their dioceses than they would be in the Feejee Islands. The principles from which these sweeping results follow are very clear and simple. It is laid down as "clear upon principle," that after the establishment of an independent Legislature in any colony or settlement there is no power in the Crown to create of its mere prerogative "any ecclesiastical corporation, whose *status*, rights, and authority the colony should "be required to recognize," still less to establish a metropolitan see, with jurisdiction over the sees of other independent settlements. Now, the Letters Patent both of Dr. Gray and of Dr. Colenso were issued after distinct legislative powers had been granted both to the settlement of the Cape of Good Hope and to the colony of Natal. The case, indeed, of a "Crown colony, properly so called," is reserved, but the judgment goes so far as to decide that, "although the Crown, as legal head of the Church, has a right to command the consecration of a Bishop, it has no power to assign him any diocese, or give him any sphere of action within the United Kingdom; and after a colony has