The Government of New Brunswick, with a just appreciation of the rights of the constituent body, dissolved Parliament before inviting its concurrence in the resolutions of the Quebec conference. The result, as we have already stated, was the return of an overwhelming majority opposed to the scheme. In the spring of the present year another dissolution of the Parliament of New Brunswick took place. A Government favorable to Confederation had just previously been formed, and, as it is asserted, by the unscrupulous use of the influence of the Crown, and still more, by representing the issue as one in which the loyalty of the people was concerned, they succeeded in securing the election of a majority favorable to the general principle of Confederation. The Quebec scheme, however, was not accepted by the people of New Brunswick in this election, for nearly all the Government candidates, including the members of the Government themselves, found it necessary to avow their dissent from that scheme or from some of its leading features. When the new Parliament assembled, ministers did not venture to submit for concurrence, or even as the basis of an act of union, the Quebec resolutions, but confined themselves to moving an address to Her Majesty, couched in the most general terms.

The Government of Nova Scotia did not dissolve Parliament, nor in the session of 1865 did they ask it to affirm the Quebec resolutions. In the session of 1866, an address to Her Majesty was adopted, expressing in general terms a desire for a federal union of the Provinces, but carefully avoiding the slightest endorsement of the Quebec scheme. It is well known that this course was pursued, because no proposition affirming, even in general terms, an approval of that scheme, would have received the support of a majority of the House of Assembly.

Prince Edward Island expressly and unequivocally rejected the Quebec scheme, and has not, thus far, evinced a desire or a willingness to form part of a general confederation on any terms; and, in Newfoundland, though a general election has taken place there since the Quebec conference was held, the resolutions of that conference have not yet been approved by the Legislature, and no steps similar to those taken in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, looking to a union on other terms, have been adopted. It may be assumed, therefore, that it is not proposed to embrace the insular provinces in any plan of confederation to be submitted to the Imperial Parliament at its next session, and we may consider the question as affecting, for the present, at least, only the Provinces of Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia.

What, then, is the present position of the question? The Governments of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have sent delegates to England to urge forward a union, but on terms different from those agreed to by the Quebec conference. The Canadian Government is about to despatch delegates to England to obtain an Act of Union, embodying the very terms agreed to by the Quebec conference. The Members of the Canadian Government are bound by repeated and explicit pledges, given from their places in Parliament, to see that the provisions of any Act of Union, assented to by them, shall be in strict conformity with the Quebec resolutions. The Members of the Governments of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, on the other hand, are pledged to obtain essential modifications of the Quebec scheme before the Union is consummated with their consent. If an Act be passed adhering strictly to the terms of the Quebec resolutions, is there not some danger that in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, disappointment, arising out of violated confidence, may speedily develop into aggravated forms of discontent? On the other hand, if the Act does not adhere closely to the terms of the Quebec resolutions, is there not equal danger that the people of Canada, smarting under a sense of broken faith, will be from the very start dissatisfied with their new form of Government? The conflicting aims and pledges of the several Provincial Governments, who agree only in desiring some kind of union, but differ widely with regard to the conditions of that union, show conclusively, we respectfully urge, the extreme impolicy of dealing with the subject at all at the approaching session of the Imperial Parliament. The present Parliament of Canada expires next summer; that of Nova Scotia expires next spring. We would say, let general elections in both Provinces take place at the regular periods fixed by law. The elections will necessarily turn on the question of confederation. The desirableness of Confederation, and the conditions on which it would be acceptable, if thought to be desirable, would be fully discussed, and the result would be the election of Parliaments representing the settled convictions and the matured purposes of the people. The decisions of Parliament elected under these circumstances, if favorable to Confederation, would go far towards ensuring the success of a system, which at best can only be regarded as an experiment, which, if tried at all, ought only to be tried under the most favorable conditions; while, if they were adverse to Confederation, that fact alone would demonstrate the wisdom of the delay for which we plead.

We have endeavored to show that the initiation of this project of Confederation, and all the subsequent steps taken to promote it, are to be traced to the party or personal exigencies of Canadian politicians, and not to a spontaneous or general desire among the people for fundamental changes in their political institutions, or in their political relations. We have endeavored to show that in none of the Provincial Parliaments have the details of the project been considered, in the sense of which the clauses of a bill are considered; that in Canada and Nova Scotia the people have not had an opportunity of pronouncing upon either the principle or the details; and that in New Brunswick, where an election was recently held, the people cannot be said to have assented to the Quebec scheme, which is the only definite plan of union now under consideration.

If these positions cannot be successfully assailed, the argument for delay would seem to be unanswerable, whatever may be thought of the general question of Confederation, or of the particular scheme agreed to by the Quebec conference.

We believe that Confederation in any form is unsuited to the present circumstances of the Provinces, and that there are defects so radical, and inconsistencies so glaring, in the Quebec plan, that it could never be brought into successful operation, even if it should be found possible to reduce it, in its integrity, to the form of a coherent Act of Parliament, in harmony with the spirit of British institutions and British legislation. We refrain, however, from troubling your Lordship with any lengthened observations, either on the general question or on the particular scheme. We assume that the single aim of Her Majesty's Government will be to give effect to the well-understood and clearly expressed wishes of the people of the Provinces. We have striven to show that no adequate expression of their wishes respecting Confederation has been given, and that the whole subject ought consequently to be, remitted back to them. In that event, our appropriate sphere for the discussion of it would be here. We think ourselves, therefore, to an earnest plea against precipitancy on a subject that concerns the highest and most enduring interests of our country, against an irreversible conclusion being drawn from erroneous or unauthenticated premises, A PLEA IN SHORT FOR DELAY.

We seek delay, not to frustrate the purposes of a majority of our countrymen, but to prevent their being surprised, against their will, or without their consent, into a political change which, however obnoxious and oppressive to them it might prove, could not be reversed without such an agitation as every well-wisher of the country might wish to avert.

[Signed by Twenty Lower Canadian Members.]

FENIANISM.

The N. Y. *World* says that notwithstanding the efforts of leading Fenians to produce the impression that Mr. Stephens has left this country, there is every reason for supposing that the Head Centre is yet in New York, awaiting his opportunity to leave when no detective's eye is open. That he will leave within a few days—if he can get off unobserved—is very certain, and that he may have left already is very possible. It is thought by Col. Kelly that the alarm of the British Government is caused as much by its accidental discovery that the Fenian organization exists in great strength in England as it is by the attitude of the men in Ireland.

The plan of the Fenian leaders in Ireland is to begin the rebellion in the North, and hurl their forces upon the less barren but less defensible regions of the South. Stephens is confident of success, and bases his confidence upon three things:

1. The disaffection of Irishmen in the English army.
2. The calculation that England cannot within three months bring more than 50,000 available troops against him.
3. The certainty that he can put 75,000 well trained men into the field, leaving, as he asserts, a reserve of 200,000 more.

Who is to supply so vast an army with rations is a question not yet solved. Mr. Stephens expects, however, that the sympathy of the Irish will be with him, and that those who are left at home will endure privations for the sake of keeping the army in fighting trim. He reckons the number of able-bodied Fenians in Ireland at 300,000 in round numbers, and of these he declares every one is a fighting man.

NEW YORK, Nov. 30.—The scanty intelligence furnished through the cable of the rumored rising in Ireland is causing great dissatisfaction among the Fenian portion of our inhabitants. It is believed the British Government has placed an embargo purposely on the cable, so that no news of an excitable nature may be transmitted here until the rebellion, if at all commenced, is stamped out. The head-quarters of James Stephens is kept in a state of continual bustle and excitement by the presence of the solid supporters of the C. O. I. R., many of whom called on Col. Kelly and Gen. Halpin to-day and tendered contributions to a very considerable amount. Concerts, balls and all sorts of conceivable means are being used to raise money, and there is no doubt the war fund will be augmented at least fifty fold before the end of next week. Hundreds of young fellows who have served with distinction in the Union and Confederate armies called on Col. Kelly during the day and offered their services in the coming struggle for liberty. It is supposed that several privateers are already being fitted out in the States to prey on British commerce the moment the Fenian war has probably commenced.

FROM GRAND TURK ISLAND.

DISTRESS IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE STORM—THE SALT SUPPLY.

FORTRESS MONROE, Nov. 28.—Advices from Grand Turk Island state that in consequence of the hurricane great distress prevailed there, but had been somewhat relieved by the arrival of the British war steamer Cadmus, which supplied the inhabitants with provisions and necessaries until the arrival of vessels from America with supplies.

The Grand Turk Island Royal Standard of the 17th says:—"A continuance of rough weather has prevented vessels in port from completing their loading, and some have sailed without full cargoes. The quantity of salt left by the hurricane is fast decreasing without the smallest prospect of another bushel being gathered until late next year. The salt now on hand, when compared with the quantity for the corresponding period last year, does not average over one-fifth; there is, therefore, every probability that all that now remains will have been shipped before the next season begins. The price is 12 and 12½c. The government market price, on which a crown duty of ten per cent, *ad valorem* is payable by the salt proprietors, has been fixed for November at ten cents per bushel. The export duty is one cent. The bushel measure for salt contains 85 imperial quarts."

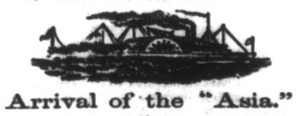
A SINGULAR DISEASE.—We copied a statement from the *Argus* a few days since, that Miss Mary Knights, of Tompham, 13 years of age, had died of a peculiar disease. She would drink a large pailful of water during the night. Sometimes she would drop down going from schoolent rely helpless. Her blood changed to sugar. She was sick six months.

The *Advertiser* mentions another of the same nature. A young man bearing the name of Knights, a resident of Lubec, died with the same disease, after fifteen months sickness. All the medicine that the attendant physician administered could not check the disease. It was found drinking water aggravated the disease; as far as possible all fluids were kept from the patient. But his craving for water made this a hard matter.

It was the only case of the kind that ever occurred in that section, but his physician told us that he had seen several in other sections of the country. The best treatment for the disease is, as far as possible, to live on dry boiled beefstake or mutton and bread, not allowing any more moisture to enter the patient's stomach than is really necessary to sustain nature. It is said that if this method is pursued when first taken, the disease may be checked and a cure effected by the administering of other proper remedies. But while the free use of liquors are allowed, medicine is of no use.—*Bangor courier.*

We learn that a man died of the same disease at Magaguadavic the week before last.—*St. Stephen, N.B., Courier.*

LATEST FROM EUROPE!



Arrival of the "Asia."

HALIFAX, December 5th.

The Royal Mail Steamship *Asia* arrived at Halifax on Wednesday night last. The Mails for this Island arrived here on Friday morning. The latest dates are to the 24th ult. The news has been principally anticipated by telegraph. We give a few items:—

A Liverpool paper of the 24th says that the Fenians are again trying to get arms into Ireland, and probably they have succeeded to some extent. The police, however, are very vigilant, and several seizures have been made. A case containing fifty Enfield rifles and bullet moulds was seized at Cork on the 23rd, and the naval authorities at Queenstown have taken possession of a schooner supposed to have munitions of war on board.

A number of persons arrived in the *City of Paris* at Cork, on Monday night, from New York, and it is noticed that many of them left in parties of three or four by early trains on Tuesday for different parts of the country.

The Cork *Examiner* says a man named Tracey, in the employ of John Daly & Co., of that City, was arrested there on the 23rd. The two cases of rifles seized by the police were consigned to the address of the above named firm.

The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Post* says that, according to French despatches, the time is rapidly approaching when the relations of Great Britain with the United States will be more than difficult.

The last meeting of the commission for the re-organization of the French army, which is likely to take place at Compiegne, was held on Tuesday, under the presidency of the Emperor Napoleon. What business was transacted is not generally known, but it is currently reported in Paris that the contemplated augmentation of the army has been abandoned, and that its effective force will remain at 400,000 men.

The *Gazette du Midi* revives the old story that the iron-clad squadron at Toulon has received sailing orders for the 28th inst., in order to escort the Empress of the French on board the imperial yacht Aigle, to Civita Vecchia, Her Majesty having at length resolved to pay her often projected visit to the Pope. This determination has been come to, it is said, in consequence of the impression produced on the Emperor's mind by the last Papal allocution.

One of the French journals has news from Miramar which, if true, is almost heartrending:—"The Empress Charlotte is completely deprived of reason, and in a horrible state of agitation. She tears her garments, obstinately refuses all nourishment, and fears every human being who approaches her."

The *Nord* says that a report prevailed in Paris that the Queen of Spain intended to abdicate and take refuge in France, and that the French Government was concentrating troops on the side of the Pyrenees, in order to be prepared for any insurrectionary or revolutionary movement that might arise.

A painful sensation has been created in Naples by the arrest of some of the most wealthy and noble of the Sicilian families, who for some time have resided in Naples. They all lie under the imputation of complicity with the late insurrectionary movement in Palermo.

H. R. H. the Prince of Wales was present at a wolf-hunt near St. Petersburg, on the 14th instant. He started for Moscow with the Crown Prince of Denmark the same night at nine, and arrived on the 15th at midday. On the 16th, the royal travellers were to be entertained at a grand dinner by the Governor General of Moscow, Prince W. Dolgoruky, and to leave at 11 o'clock at night for St. Petersburg. The Prince of Wales was received with great enthusiasm by the people. At the opera he was loudly cheered, and the British anthem was performed several times, in answer to the calls of the audience. His royal highness is expected to return to England about the 28th.

It is stated that the Italian Government will take upon itself the payment of a proportionate part of the Papal debt as it existed in 1860. With regard to the arrears since that period, they would be consolidated, and the interest thereon defrayed by Italy.

It is said that the King of Prussia has written to the Pope, offering His Holiness the protection of Prussia.

Letters from Rome of the 16th state that the cholera there is now very serious. On the 15th there were 100 cases; and in consequence of the panic several foreigners have left the city.

The Dublin Freeman's Journal has the following in a recent number:—

"If we may judge by certain precautions now being taken by the military and police authorities, it would seem that they do not totally disregard the assertion of the famous head centre that there will be fighting in Ireland this year. The ordnance officers are busily putting Beggar's Bush Barracks in a state of defence. The walls surrounding it are being strengthened in many places, and flanking projections, with numerous loop-holes commanding the various points from which an attack might be made, are being constructed.

"Similar preparations for defence are in progress in several military stations throughout the provinces, there being a large number of men engaged in strengthening the old fortification of Athlone Castle. With respect to the preparations on the part of the metropolitan police, they principally consist in a diligent training of its various members in the use of the revolver, all those not on duty being drilled every day to the exercise of it and the cutlass, which they are to carry during this, as in the past."

The negotiations for a commercial treaty between France and Austria are now almost completed. The French plenipotentiaries were to go to Vienna on the 18th to make the final arrangements. France has made important concessions to Austria in regard to sugar, spirits, feathers, and iron.

The subject of the annexation of Belgium to France is still discussed by some of the Paris journals, and new arrangements are adduced to prepare the public mind for the absorption of that kingdom when the French troops return from Rome and Mexico and the re-organization of the French army is complete.

At the War Office, at Paris, everything is being got ready for the evacuation of Rome, and it is said that the mode in which the evacuation is to be carried out has already been arranged. On the 5th of December, Gen. Montebello will leave Rome with his staff, but General Polhes will remain in the Castle of St. Angelo with half a brigade up to the 15th, on which day the French flag will be taken from the castle, after a salute of 101 guns, and replaced by the Papal flag, which will also receive a salute. Gen. Polhes will then give up the keys of the castle to the Papal General Kanten, and the Roman Legion will take the place of the French troops.

By a very recent order of the Italian Government, the Bishops who have been so long exiled from their Sees in the annexed States are allowed to return to their Dioceses. Two orders have, in fact, been issued on this subject. By the first, which was issued at the close of last month, all the Bishops were allowed to return, except those who had made Rome their residence during their exile. The second order removes this limitation, and all the exiled Prelates are now at liberty to return to their sees, no matter where they may have resided, or whether their exile was voluntary or compulsory. If we have been correctly informed, this change in the conduct, if not the policy, of the Subalpine Government, is to be attributed to the counsels of Mr. Gladstone and Gen. Fleury, acting independently, and without concert, but moving in the same direction.

The Paris journals assert that Spain is on the eve of a general rising, and the *Nord* alleges that the Queen is about to abdicate, and take refuge in France.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says that the Princess Dagmar, who had been taken suddenly ill, is now much better.

The Italians are getting to see clearly that Florence must remain the capital—that Rome can only belong to the Mazzinians, and they are changing their tone in a very odd manner. It is said that Lord Clarendon's presence here is not altogether a private matter. He has had two interviews with the Holy Father—the second time his family accompanied him—and he has spoken most warmly of the impression made upon him by the bearing and majesty of the Pope. He is said to have told the Holy Father that the Queen would feel herself greatly honored if he should resolve to accept the offer of any portion of British soil, during the time he might have to be away from Rome. Last week also the Prussian Minister made a formal offer on the part of the King of a suitable residence in Prussia for the same period.

News by Telegraph.

LONDON, Dec. 2.—All the regular troops in this city will be strictly confined to the precincts of their barracks during the Reform meeting, which takes place here on Monday. Lieut. Maury, late Confederate naval commander, has arrived in London. It is quite probable that troops will be sent to Liverpool and Glasgow, on account of the bad feeling that prevails among the Irish in those cities. Many arrests have been made by the Government in Ireland.

LONDON, Dec. 3.—A grand Reform demonstration took place to-day. It was participated in by the Trade Societies. It was the most important affair of the kind ever held in this city—fully 50,000 people marched in procession to the place of meeting, and there would have been thousands more had the weather been fair. There were 40 societies in line that marched, together with various branch societies of the Reform League, all divided into four grand divisions, with bands of music, banners, mottoes, &c. Great enthusiasm was manifested, but the immense crowds were orderly, and no disturbance occurred. The Stars and Stripes were borne in the procession, and among the airs played by the various bands was the "Wearing of the Green."

The Fenian senator Meany, was arrested this morning and taken to Dublin. No evidence of treason was found upon him. It is said that the United States authorities in Italy had telegraphed to Malta to arrest John H. Surratt, one of President Lincoln's assassins, on the steamer's touching there, but the attempt failed.

LONDON, Tuesday evening, Dec. 4.—The Morning Herald declares the rumors that have been circulating dissensions in the British Cabinet out of the probable retirement of D'Israeli, are without foundation. The same paper announces that the Royal Commission upon the Neutrality Laws has been formed, and consists of thirteen members, the most eminent of whom have already been announced.

NEW YORK, Dec. 5, p. m.—A New Orleans special says it is whispered that the fast Clyde built blockade runner Alexandria, has been purchased, and is fitting out here for the purpose of aiding Ireland.—Gold 139.

QUEBEC, Nov. 30.—A cable despatch authorises the Mayor of this City to draw £1000 for relief of sufferers by late fire—subscriptions collected in Dublin.

Toronto, Nov. 30.—Gen. Michel is to be sworn in shortly and will act as Administrator of the Government during the absence of Lord Monck, who is going to England by the next Cunard steamer to assist in the Confederation project.

Toronto, C. W., Dec. 5.—A man named James McDevitt, hailing from New Brunswick, has been arrested here for using seditious language, during the Government to hang the Fenians, etc. He will be examined to-day.

Ottawa, Dec. 5.—The whole of the Volunteer Battalions in Canada have been supplied with new and complete equipments of guns, carriages, stores, ammunition and harness, which has given great satisfaction to the officers and men, as placing them in a condition to take the field with effect at a moment's warning. Among those who have thus been newly equipped, are the field batteries at London, Welland, Hamilton, Toronto, Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec.

LATER!

Hamilton, C. W., Dec. 5.—Extensive improvements are being made in the military buildings to accommodate the new artillery equipments. In addition to guns and harnesses of a new pattern, field batteries have been supplied with the Spencer rifle.

LONDON, Dec. 6.—Two more Regiments of Troops, and a company of Engineers, ordered immediately to Ireland. Admiralty ordered three iron clads of horse fleet to sail on Irish coast.

New York, Dec. 6.—Sedgwick removed from command on Rio Grande; his occupation of Matamoras cause of his removal. Gold 138½.

Toronto, Dec 8.—In the matter of the condemned Fenians, the Sheriff received instructions from the Government to make no preparations. Respite granted till 10th March. Montreal Transcript learns from a reliable source that from fifteen to seventeen thousand rifles have been sold in that city on Fenians account within a few days.

LONDON, Dec. 6.—Maximilian telegraphs by the Atlantic cable that he will soon land at Gibraltar.—Gold 137¾.

The Herald.

Wednesday, December 12, 1866.

HAVE WE ANY POLITICAL PARTIES?

ANY person who has been an attentive reader of the Charlottetown papers of late, will not be astonished at the question which heads this article. For some weeks past, a writer in the *Examiner*—the supposed organ of the Liberal Party—has been making a tool of himself and of that paper by recommending a coalition of the Conservative and Liberal leaders into a so-called "Party of Progress." Of course every one understands that our Confederate politicians, being now politically bankrupt, are anxious for any coalition that will secure to them a share of the loaves and fishes of office, and a voice in the councils of the country that may enable them to swing us into Confederation whenever the chance offers; but these advocates for coalition must possess a charming simplicity if they imagine that any politician, with an ounce of brains in his head, is going to risk his character and his position by an association with them. Any coalition which proposes to embrace the leading Confederates, (whose wish and design it is, by recommending such a coalition, to occupy the highest places in the synagogue), would be scouted from one end of the Island to the other. It would not command the confidence of the public for a day. It may be well, perhaps, for the people to sound those who shall present themselves before them for election upon their views in reference to the combination shadowed forth. The friends of the promised "Party of Progress" ought to be well known before they are placed in a position to carry their scheme into practical operation. Should this precaution be overlooked, who knows but we may see, upon the meeting of the new Parliament, a coalition Government led by a Confederate, with Mr. W. H. Pope as Colonial Secretary, and the other principal offices distributed in like manner. We cannot think that the Liberals, as a Party, have either suggested or acquiesced in the proposition of the *Examiner*, and we think moreover, that they ought to take the earliest opportunity to repudiate it in the most public manner. This Island, we feel convinced, is not going to entrust its interests to a coalition of that kind, nor yet to a political party which favors it. The proposition is viewed with general distrust and contempt; and the comment from almost every lip is that the writer in the *Examiner* must be a dolt, who falsifies the trite saying of the Rev. Sydney Smith, in one of his Reviews, that a man's faculties are wonderfully concentrated when he is about to be executed. Certainly the political execution which inevitably awaits the Confederate coalition manufacturers has the very opposite effect to that of concentrating their faculties, for we must in candor say, that a more ill-timed suggestion,—a coalition of more incongruous elements, or one advocated in a more slip-slop, slavering, verbose, muddling style, we have never read. We will say one word for all in reference to a coalition of parties. The only coalition Government that could possibly hope to meet the approval of the people would be one which rigidly excluded from its Councils all those who are known to be in favor of the Quebec Scheme. A Government to be stable and popular must tolerate no Canadian spies and agents within its ranks to thwart the legislation of the people's representatives; and this condition, we believe, the country ought and will insist upon.

With reference to the Conservative Party, we scarcely know what to think or say. The *Islander* used to be recognized as the organ of that Party, and we presume still considers itself so. Now, if this be the case, we know that the tortuous and treacherous policy pursued by that journal will not receive the support of any considerable portion of the people. Neither in its dealings with the Land Question, nor with Confederation, is it in harmony with public opinion. The *Patriot* differs widely from the *Islander* upon the question of Confederation; but whether it is prepared to endorse all the extravagance, with respect to delegations, military expenditure, etc., of which the Government has been guilty, is a point that ought to be settled before the elections come off. We confess we are at a loss to know whether the Government is Confederate or anti-Confederate in its character, or whether the *Islander* or the *Patriot* is the organ of the Conservative Party. Both evidently cannot be the organs of the Government, and what the Government or Conservative platform and policy are we would give a trifle to know. Politics appear to be topsy-turvy just now, except, indeed, in this far, that the PEOPLE are determined upon having none but uncompromising anti-Confederates of the most intelligent and independent stamp that can be procured for their representatives in the next Parliament. Party cries and party leaders have lost much of their influence, and for this state of affairs the leaders have to thank themselves. Those of them who, from their previous history, rashly concluded that they could drag their party after them into whatever course they choose to pursue, formed a de facto coalition for the purpose of carrying a scheme of union, which, in its bearing upon the interests and dignity of the colony, far transcends all or any of the different policies of contending parties. In this case the people found themselves abandoned by their long recognized leaders, whose vaulting ambition ourran, for once, their prudence and their patriotism. The instinct of self-preservation led to their making common cause in defence of their rights and privileges. Those of their leaders who have proved faithful to the trust reposed in them are as powerful to-day as ever they were, and it is they alone who will have the privilege of initiating any coalition that may be found necessary for the safety and welfare of the colony. The *Examiner*, on the one hand, has done more towards weakening the Liberal Party than any other cause; and the *Islander*, on the other, is notoriously a source of weakness to the Conservatives. Having first become deserters themselves, and done all in their power to destroy confidence in either Party, it is rather amusing now to hear these organs bewailing the obstinacy and ingratitude of the people, and the absence of all political excitement. Out of all this chaos, however, something like order is being restored, and we think the coming contests will be decided by the antecedents of both parties, and by the estimate in which the present principles and character of their respective leaders are held. As the consideration of this aspect of the subject requires both time and space, we will defer entering into it until next week.

SCOTLAND.

THE leading advocates of Confederation both here and elsewhere, in their endeavors to create favor for their darling scheme, have often pointed to Scotland as an illustration of the advantages to be derived from the political union of countries. Mr. Haviland, and others, have attempted that process of ratiocination in this Colony. Mr. Haythorne, a short time since, pointed out some of Mr. Haviland's historical inaccuracies and false deductions. Just and successful as was Mr. Haythorne's critique, he did not fully enter into the subject of Scotland's alleged prosperity, or the connection said to be existing between it and the Union of 1707. When told to look at the Factories and Shipyards on the Clyde, and the farms of the Lothians etc., Mr. Haythorne might, in addition to the facts which we used last week in considering this subject, have announced the startling and expressive truth that according to the last official returns:

"There are in Scotland 356,723 houses of only one apartment!"

Now, allowing only five inhabitants for each of these dwellings—which we consider a fair average—we find that one-half the people of this amazingly prosperous and united country are no better housed than so many cattle. To what cause will Mr. Haviland or the editor of the *Islander* attribute this state of affairs; or will they acknowledge that they are either ignorant of it, or, knowing it, they have dishonestly withheld it from the public? Nothing can be more false or rotten than the argument which the Confederates seek to base upon Scotland's Union with England. The terms of that Union, in the first place, whether financially or politically, and with respect to the important matter of representation, were much fairer than those of the Quebec Scheme, and lastly, even under the most favorable circumstances, it has proved a wretched failure in so far as the social position and circumstances of the mass of the Scottish people are concerned. This we have proved by facts which cannot be controverted; and with these facts before us we are astonished at the cool hardihood of the Confederates in putting Scotland forward as a country whose example ought to be followed, rather than a beacon to warn and guide us. We hope we have done with the *fancy* pictures drawn by Messrs. Haviland, Pope, and others, in reference to Scotland's Union, and that when next they attempt to pourtray the glories of Confederation, their groundwork will consist of truth and common sense, in both of which they appear lamentably deficient at present.

THE COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

ALTHOUGH to-day is nomination day, yet we are not in possession of a complete list of the candidates who intend to offer for the Council. From Prince County we learn, that for the First District, Mr. Yeo will be opposed by Nicholas Conroy, Esq., and for the Second District, Mr. Ramsay will be opposed by Jas. Muirhead, Jas. Campbell and Thos. Kelly, Esquires. In Queen's County, Donald W. Palmer, Esq., has been nominated to succeed Mr. Henderson,—who is to run for the Lower House for Murray Harbor,—for the First District, and so far we have not heard whether he will be opposed or not. For the Second District, Mr. Haythorne will oppose Mr. Goff. We think there can be no doubt that Mr. Haythorne will be successful. Unless the people are thoroughly blind to their own interests, it cannot be else. Were it not for Mr. Haythorne's influence and example, we believe the Cunard Estates, as well as the Montgomery Estates, would never have been purchased. The tenants upon them might have lived on in serfdom, trodden into the dust or shot down by soldiers placed at the disposal of an unprincipled constabulary rendered furious by whiskey supplied by the Government, but for the noble example of a humane landlord who shamed our rulers from their ruthless course, and forced them into buying up the estates referred to, rather than in expending the revenue upon barracks, soldiers, constables, whiskey, horse-hire, etc. All this extravagance, dissipation and misery, occasioned by the tenant crusade of the Government, was supported by Mr. Goff. Mr. Haythorne, on the contrary, both directly and indirectly, aided in doing away with the "reign of terror," and therefore we say again we cannot but think he will receive the hearty support of the vast majority of the voters of the Second District, whatever their religious or political views may be. In King's County, it is supposed that Mr. Dingwell will be allowed to walk the course for the First District; and Mr. McDonald for the Second District. A special election will have to be held to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of the Hon. James McLaren. We give below, for the information of our readers, the qualification of a voter for a Legislative Councillor:—

"Every male person of the age of twenty-one years or upwards, who shall own a freehold or leasehold property, of the value of one hundred pounds currency, or who shall own lands partly freehold and partly leasehold, amounting together in value to one hundred pounds currency, and who shall have been in possession of the same for a period of at least twelve calendar months previous to the *teste* of the writ of the election, shall be entitled to vote for a member to serve in the Legislative Council of this Island, and shall vote at the place or places at which he ordinarily votes at the election of a member or members of the House of Assembly, under and by virtue of the laws now in force relating to the election of members to serve in the General Assembly."