

economy with the exigencies of the public service. The probable termination of the Reciprocity Treaty is to be deplored. Try and make a name for yourselves, at the Dublin International Exhibition. Improve the School Bill, look after the Pictou and Annapolis railroad, and say something about the St. Peter's Canal. Enlarge the Lunatic Asylum, thank God for all his mercies, and — fight out the Session like men.

Communications, &c.

It is distinctly to be borne in mind that we do not, by inserting letters convey any opinion favorable to their contents. We open our columns to all, without leaning to any; and thus supply a channel for the publication of opinions of all shades, to be found in no other journal in Nova Scotia.

To the Editor of the Bullfrog.

SIR,
I observe in your issue of the 28th ultimo a communication signed "A. B. Granville," in which the writer takes, in my opinion, a very singular method of aiding you in "your mission to elevate the tone of our society, both morally and politically."

He admits the "Agricultural Exhibition held in Bridgetown last year to be a failure"—and gives as a reason that—"In this County the proceedings of the Fruit Growers' Association were viewed with great suspicion, &c. &c." Can A. B. inform me what connection existed between the F. G. Association and the Bridgetown Agricultural Society, under whose auspices the Exhibition referred to was held, and to whose members the competition was limited?

It is true the Association held an Exhibition of Fruits, Roots and Cereals, at Bridgetown, on the same day; but so far from being a failure, it was confessedly the largest and best Exhibition of Fruit ever shown in Nova Scotia, as is proved by the number of First and Second Class Certificates taken by a portion of the same fruit at the International Exhibition held in London in December.

Now Mr. Editor I come to the most serious part in this communication, in which the writer makes a direct attack on the private character of a gentleman who can be none other than the respected President of the Association. He says—"It has lately been reported and believed in the County, that 'a man high in office did not scruple to obtain one of the 'highest prizes of the Association by unfair means—he got 'from a neighbour's orchard fruit that he should have raised 'himself.'"

It is well known that the gentleman in question, in his official capacity as member of the Central Board of Agriculture, was obliged to attend the Provincial Exhibition in Fredericton, which was held the week previous to that held in Bridgetown, and did not return home until late on Saturday evening, and on the following Monday morning left for Bridgetown. During his absence in N. B. I passed through his orchard with his foreman, Mr. Graham, and examined the fruit on the trees; I afterwards saw the picked fruit in the Fruit Room, and can say positively that both, *on the trees and in the Fruit Room, I saw the same kinds of Apples, and in as good condition and appearance as I afterwards saw in the collection marked FIRST CLASS SILVER MEDAL, in the Grounds of the Association, at Bridgetown.*

In conclusion, let me say to A. B. that if we may estimate his principles by the high moral tone of the latter part of his communication, he will at once come out, and over his own signature and address give his authority for making those statements, and use his influence to expose the parties guilty of originating such falsehoods, thus in some measure to expiate the wrong which he has—we may hope unintentionally—been the means of committing. I am yours, &c.

Cornwallis, Feb. 6th, 1865.

ROBERT W. STARR.

Extracts.

MR. CARDWELL'S CANADIAN DESPATCH.

No English statesman could, if he would, disguise from his mind the extreme significance of the projected union of our North American Colonies. In place of five or six provinces, England will in future have to maintain relations with a colonial nation; and we believe Mr. Cardwell has rightly judged that the change, so far from accelerating the often pre-

dicted severance of the Colonies from the Mother Country, will tend, as its promoters evidently desire that it should, to the permanence of the British connexion. It will be something to have the chances of dispute limited to one instead of several, and it will be a much greater gain to deal with a nation conscious of its responsibilities, than to be ashamed to neglect them. Without making any idle attempt to forecast the remote future, one may see in the great enterprise of the statesmen of British North America the elements of union rather than of disruption. The anxiety which they have manifested to proclaim their loyalty to the Crown, and their appreciation of the advantages of union with the most powerful of maritime nations, is no empty and insincere manifestation, but the expression of what is, for the present at any rate, the genuine sentiment of the North American colonists. There was a time when the French party broke out into rebellion, and the ill-blood was assuaged by a partial union. Yet later, there prevailed among a section of the British colonists a vague desire to link their destinies with the United States; but both of these dreams have long since vanished, and for years past the suggestion of having once favoured the annexationists has been the taunt which a Canadian felt more deeply than any other slur upon his honour or his wisdom. The theory recently broached by the American Correspondent of the *Times*, that Canadian loyalty dates only from the outbreak of the civil war, and that the dread of Federal taxation and conscription has transformed the colonists from eager admirers of the North into earnest sympathizers with the Confederate States, is an entire delusion, which has been warmly resented by the organs of the most powerful party in Canada. The truth undoubtedly is, that loyalty as a mere sentiment is as real across the Atlantic as it is in our own island, while the feeling is strongly reinforced by a sense of the extreme convenience of having the protection of an English fleet, and the co-operation of an English army, in any of the emergencies which arise so rapidly on American soil. The almost laboured energy with which Mr. Cardwell congratulates the Colonies on this state of feeling is based on something more solid than the desire to supply the proper amount of conventional flattery.

Although the Government despatch has only now reached us after twice crossing the Atlantic, it has been patent throughout that the Union movement has had the hearty co-operation of the Ministry at home, and no one can doubt that it will be met in the same spirit by the Houses of Parliament. The discussion of an Imperial Bill to revolutionize the Constitution of our Transatlantic dependencies will not the less be a matter of some delicacy. It is only on the invitation of the Colonies themselves that our Legislature could resume the functions which were practically abdicated when self-government was conceded to the North American Provinces, and this consideration will, we hope, induce both the Government and the members of the Opposition to refrain from too eager a dissection of the measure that England is asked to sanction. It is impossible that any new Constitution should exactly square with the ideas of every ingenious member of the Legislature, and in would be an unfortunate mistake to treat the project as a measure introduced by the Government for the purpose of affording opportunities for party controversy. Canada and Nova Scotia are not to have their destinies wrangled over in detail, as those of Hindoos and Parsees were during the debates on the Bill which vested the Government of India in the Crown. The part of England in this transaction is, first, to ascertain how far the broad scheme is compatible with Imperial policy—a question which may be assumed to be already solved; and, secondly, to lend her aid in putting the project into the shape of an effective Act of Parliament substantially as it comes from the hands of the Colonial Legislatures. Modifications may with propriety be introduced in concert with the delegates who may represent the Colonies, for the purpose, if necessary, of guarding the prerogative, and with the more practical object of adding to the precision of the proposed Constitution; but it would be an abuse of the legislative authority of this country materially to depart from those provisions the previous acceptance of which by the different Colonies is the sole occasion of our interposing at all. Mr. Cardwell's despatch, though it suggests some alterations in the scheme drawn up by the Colonial delegates, does not appear to be intended in any way to violate what we take to be the funda-