ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF THE PRINCE CONSORT.—Wednesday being the third anniversary of the death of the Prince Consort, the day was observed with much solemnity, by the members of the Royal circle now at Windsor Castle. About half-past eleven o'clock her Majesty, accompanied by the junior members of the Royal family, attired in deep mourning, repaired to the mausoleum which is now being erected in the grounds of Frogmore House and where are interred the remains of the late Prince Consort. The mausoleum, which is a building of noble proportions, and adorned with costly stone and marble, is approached by a handsome flight of steps furnished with some balustrading, at the top of which is an open portico of elegant design, within which is a door having over it a coat of arms and the monogram "V. A." entwined on each side of it. Beneath the coat of arms is a brass tablet, with raised Latin inscriptions, recording the death of the Prince; while the roof of the portico has been decorated with Venetian mosiacs, representing a blue sky with golden stars, and other ornaments. On the tomb, which is approached by a flight of steps, at the foot, lies the recumbent figure of the Prince; while to small portable flights of steps covered with black cloth, are placed on each side of the tomb, near the head. Above all is a large woollen canopy, which on Wednesday together with the tomb itself, was hung with wreaths and garlands of immortelles, white azaleas and evergreens, while a heap of wreaths of immortelles was lying at the feet of the tomb, near which was also a burning lamp, evidently placed for the purpose of throwing a little light on the objects near at hand. Choice exotics were also disposed around the interior of the building, giving it a very beautiful appearance, although yet in an unfinished state. By the kind permission of her Majesty the servants of the Royal household and the Queen's tradesmen, with their families, were allowed to visit the mausoleum between the hours of 12 and half-past three o'clock, and accordingly some hundreds availed themselves of the privilege, there being during a portion of the time set apart for the admission, a constant stream of visitors passing through the upper part of the Long-walk, to the Frogmore grounds on their way to the Prince's tomb.

AIRES PLACE WAY.—In the summary of European news by telegraph printed in our last we have the following:

"Mr. Pender of Manchester, Member of Parliament for Tretness, had been addressing his constituents. Adverting to American affairs, he said he believed *although the North might subjugate the South, it could not keep them in subjection.*"

Who does Mr. Pender suppose are to be kept "in subjection" by "the North," in case of a decided Union triumph? Certainly not the four millions of Southern Slaves whom that triumph will emancipate, for it is not even pretended, that it will be difficult to "keep them in subjection," to the Union. On the contrary, they will be, as they are already mainly are, its devoted, enthusiastic supporters, regarding it as the source and bulwark of their freedom.—Should any attempt thereafter to subvert the Federal authority, they will necessarily be eager to detect and resist it.

Then as to the Poor Whites—that majority of the hitherto dominant race, who neither own slaves nor profit by the slaves of others,—why shall they seek to subvert the Union? Common schools—labor made honorable—brighter prospects—better hope for their children,—these are what they cannot fail to realize as their gains from the downfall of Rebellion and Slavery. How will they be "subjugated?" In what will consist their "subjection?" Their States will have more representatives in Congress because of the overthrow of Slavery, and they will share the consideration and influence hitherto monopolized by the privileged slave-holding caste. Why shall the Poor Whites wish a revolution? What are they to gain by it? Will they have had not enough war and its attendant miseries? Will they fight for a return to the ignorance, the degradation, the hopelessness of the past? Who believes it?

As to the ex-slaveholders and their parasites, it is quite possible that some of them will sigh for the good old times wherein every man was free to "larrup his own nigger" to his hearts content, and when a few wealthy negro-owners gave law to the country. But what can they do? Slavery being dead, how is it to be brought to life again? Is anyone mad as to dream that the Blacks, once free, can ever be permanently re-enslaved? Is there an instance of this in history? Surely not. Then what is to incite and sustain a future Southern rebellion?

"Not Heaven itself upon the past hath power, But what hath been hath been."

Slavery dead, the lands of the South will rapidly appreciate to double, treble, quadruple their former values. Idleness will give place to industry. Emigration will reclothe the waste places with verdure and beauty. All fixed property will be constantly and rapidly increasing in value. Every Southern State will have more weight in Congress than ever before. Then what will incite fresh rebellion? What will be keeping "them" "in subjection?" Evidently Mr. Pender does not comprehend the matter.

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ISLANDER.

Exeilis descensus Averni!
Sed revocare gradum!

SIR,—I am confident there are few individuals amongst us who will not be ready to offer their congratulations to the people of the United States if further accounts confirm the prospects of peace announced in your last week's paper. Nevertheless, we should do well to remember that the civil war, which for nearly four years has raged with such implacable ferocity, has been only a gigantic effort on the part of the Southern States to free themselves from a *Federal Union*—a Union once the pride and boast of the free and enlightened citizens of the neighboring Republic! We should do well, I say, Mr. Editor, to remember the accounts we have heard and read of awful slaughter of men, maimed in the prime of life and usefulness; of cities bombarded, of dwellings plundered and burned, of women treated with worse than Sepoy brutality; of extensive regions devastated, and pause before we consent to a measure which will bind us as irrevocably to the proposed British North American Union as the Southern States were to the North. The Constitution devised at the Quebec Conference affords no *locus penitentiæ*—no opportunity of withdrawal, to such States of the Union, as may find their golden dreams dissipated, or their just expectations disappointed!

In order to comprehend thoroughly the question soon to be decided, (it is to be hoped not without an appeal to the people on the hustings first being made), we must revert to a period last summer, when a meeting of delegates from the two neighboring Provinces and Prince Edward Island, duly appointed by their respective Legislatures, met in Charlottetown to consider the question of a "Legislative Union" of the three! They were soon joined by certain Canadian statesmen, whose influence proved sufficiently powerful to induce them to abandon the plan of Union which they were appointed to consider, and adopt another, different in every respect, and in this especially, that it was entirely unauthorized by the people's Representatives. If I were asked to explain the cause of the anxiety of the Canadian statesmen for a speedy Union, I should say it arose principally from their domestic difficulties, as well as from their expectation of becoming the leading State in the Confederacy; and a desire to place their means of defence in a more respectable condition. The 61st section of the Report admits the existence of a Canadian debt of $62,500,000, about thirteen million pounds sterling. Mr. Galt, in his famous Sherbrooke speech, admit an excess of expenditure over income in 1862, of $900,000; and I find, from a recent number of a Halifax paper, that during the last seven years, the expenditure of Canada has each year exceeded her income, the excess in seven years amounting to $16,964,000! Certainly it was no easy task to devise a plan by which two countries could be united on equal terms, one of which owed 25 dollars per head, and the other three! one of which increases her debt at the rate of more than two million dollars a year, with a tariff of 20 per cent duties; the other makes her income meet her expenditure, with a tariff only half as high! The expedient devised was anything but statesmanlike; I should call it clumsy, and degrading alike to those who offered it, and to those who would accept it. I need scarcely repeat the terms of the bargain by which our independence is to be sold; but will briefly notice the disingenuous statement of a Charlottetown contemporary of yours. The Editor of the "Examiner" says, "Canada will be bound to *subsidize* us to the amount of £380,000, (sterling, I presume) not simply bound to pay us the interest of that sum, semi-annually, in advance, but to pay *the whole* into our Treasury should we require it." The 63rd section of the Report says, "Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island shall be entitled to receive by half-yearly payments in advance, from the General Government, the interest at five per cent. on the difference between the actual amount of their respective debts at the time of the Union, and the average amount of indebtedness per head of the population of Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia." The 65th section provides for the payment to New Brunswick of $60,000 per annum for ten years. The 66th section for the payment of a further sum of $150,000 to Newfoundland, and to all these, as well as to our own subsidy, we contribute! Is not this a strange method of balancing the liabilities of the different sections of the Union, which calls on those to pay who ought to receive? Another consideration which ought not to be lost sight of is, that while the Federal Government assumes as public property (vide Sec. 55) Railways, Railway stock, *Mortgages* and *other debts* due by Railway Companies, (without specifying their amount) and by section 68 undertakes to secure without delay the construction of the Inter-Colonial Railway, it does absolutely nothing for the people of Prince Edward Island; nay, worse than nothing, for although it pays the annual interest of the sum required to enfranchise the lands of the old French settlers in Lower Canada, it refuses to assist our Tenants with a shilling to buy out their landlords! While it undertakes the construction of Railways on the mainland for the accommodation of the people of the Upper and Maritime Provinces, it grants nothing towards the making or maintainance of our highways, which are as importance to us as Railways to them.

Perhaps the most dangerous feature of the proposed Constitution, is the plausible, yet fallacious theory of representation by population, a theory which practically deprives us of our independence, by assigning us five members in a house of 194. I call it a plausible theory, because *it seems* fair enough that 15,000 men in one section of the Union should possess the same degree of political power as a like number in another! But what if 2,800,000 Canadians owe 25 dollars per head, and 80,000 people in Prince Edward Island only owe three! Can the indebted population claim to stand on an equal footing with the comparatively free? And what of the character and origin of that population? is it exclusively of British extraction or native born? I came across recently a return issued by the department of agriculture and statistics at Quebec, stating that during the past year, 18,420 immigrants had arrived. Of these two-thirds remained in Canada, and of the whole, nearly one-half were Germans, Swedes, and other foreigners; the return further states there was an increase of 417 immigrants arriving over the previous year. In less than one decennial period (10 years) the annual influx of 12,000 or more foreign immigrants to the Upper Provinces, would add to their representation more than as many members in the Lower House as are now assigned to us. And I ask, would it be just or equitable that a German or Swede, ignorant it may be of the English language, ignorant of the British Constitution, yet likely, I admit, at some future time to become a useful member of society, but having as yet done nothing to earn his political status, should have the same privileges as a Prince Edward Island farmer, who has cleared lands, built houses, reared and educated sons and daughters, and may be supposed to understand something of the requirements and interests of his native or adopted country? Further, I ask, is it equitable that a single Canadian city should return as many representatives as does this Island? Scattered rural populations evidently require more representatives than cities; in the former, men live much alone, it is always difficult to elicit an expression of opinion amongst them, or even induce them to meet for any ordinary purpose; in the latter, besides the advantage of concentration, there is continually going on that attrition of intellects which enables men to arrive at conclusions with great rapidity, and give them effect with greater certainty. The danger of this theory of representation may be further illustrated by a calculation, taken from a Halifax paper, to the effect that, if the increase of the population of Upper Canada, which, during the last decennial period was 40 per cent., should continue in the same ratio during the next 40 years, the increase in the other Provinces continuing the same as at present, she will then have acquired an actual majority over all the other states combined—the members being for Upper Canada 148, all others 112,—Majority 36! No wonder the people of Upper Canada were so anxious for the adoption of this principle, that as Mr. Galt tells the people of Sherbrooke, "without it there would be no union." No wonder discussions on the subject in the Conference were so promptly silenced, and that while some members contended that the point had been settled in Charlottetown, others asserted it was not decided at all, and Prince Edward Island was subsequently refused the addition of even a sixth member! If a place on the habitable globe can be discovered where everything is so accurately proportioned, that there exists an exact balance between labor and capital, between rural and manufacturing industry, between the natural capabilities of the distant part of an extensive region, if such a country was inhabited by a population so exemplary that their opinions were always adopted, not from the narrow motives of self interest or ambition, but from those higher and broader ones of patriotism and equity; that, Sir, would be the country in which to try the experiment of representation by population; for ordinary countries, for ordinary men, or for British North America it is entirely unsuited! This part of the plan bears evident marks of having been brought down to Charlottetown from Canada ready prepared. Upper Canada, secure in her present numerical preponderance, and prospective decennial increase, liberally allows her sister Province the boon of sixty-five members certain, and as many more as she can lay claim to; and gives her the further advantage of equal representation in the Legislative Council. According to the 21st section, our Representation in the Commons House may sink below five members; according to the 20th section that of Lower Canada cannot fall below 65.

I have long regarded a Union of some sort as the most probable means of remedying, some at least, of our domestic grievances. I believe the time has arrived when one must be accomplished; but, in my opinion, if the four Lower Provinces wish to avoid becoming little better than Canadian dependencies, they must reject the population and readjustment theories altogether; and remembering that they have hitherto formed four independent states, insist upon such an amount of representation as will effect a fair balance of power in the United Legislature.

Mr. Editor, this is a great, a most momentous question, one which demands from every man the calmest, the most deliberate judgment. I fear I have treated it but feebly; and notwithstanding my unpardonable encroachment on your valuable space, I have left unnoticed the recently received despatch; said nothing of the evils arising from burdensome restrictions on trade, in the shape of Customs duties; presented no contrasts between the national debt of the embryo Confederacy, and the early stages of that of Britain; said nothing of the dangers which may ensue from Governments undertaking huge public works; nor of the evils which may possibly result to those [illegible] only distant, half-forgotten dependencies of an extensive empire! Should my letter find favor with your readers, you may perhaps be induced to tolerate a further encroachment on your columns by

Your obedient servant,
R. P. HAYTHORNE.

Marshfield, January 17, 1865.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

SIR,—Since the "all-absorbing topic" of the Union of the Colonies became the order of the day, I have acted as an impartial observer of all that has been said and written on that very important subject, as I was expecting that the editor of the *Examiner* or some of his "fast friends" would be so kind as to show us, through the press or otherwise, how we would be likely to gain anything by going into the Union now contemplated. So far, I see that neither he nor they have advanced any cogent arguments in support of the side of the question which they have taken; nor do I believe they can so long as they are laboring under their present indisposition, caused by swallowing too many of the HERALD Cathartic Pills.

The editor of the *Examiner* must, undoubtedly, be laboring under a great hallucination if he thinks that the people of Prince Edward Island are so void of sense and judgment as to allow themselves to be led by him or any other office-seeking character who may endeavor to get them into a snare, merely for the purpose of promoting himself and suiting his "own ends." His sophistical and scurrilous writings, I am sure, will not be the means of making him a luminary or a god in the opinion of any sensible person who is not altogether guided by self-interest. For my part, I would be well pleased to see Mr. Whelan promoted, so long as he deserves it; but when I see that he is endeavoring to work the ruin of the country, in whose future advancement he pretends to take such an interest, I cannot, for a moment, consider him any better than a traitor. He may accuse the editor of the HERALD of whatever he likes, and make use of all the unbecoming language he possibly can, but this will not exculpate him. Neither he nor his handful of deluded followers are capable of driving nearly nine-tenths of the inhabitants of Prince Edward Island whatever way they may think will be most conducive to their own interests. If even one drop of patriotic blood runs in his veins, he would not endeavor to work the ruin of the country and its inhabitants, who, for so many years, have fostered and cherished him, and patronized the organ in which he now publicly declares himself to be a Unionist.

There are a few individuals throughout the Island, who, I believe, never look at any of our Island journals, except the *Islander* and *Examiner*, and who, on that account, do not know the nature of the Union scheme no more than the "man in the moon." Some of those would-be smart fellows are very fond of sending communications to the editor of the *Examiner*, who is always on hand to receive them, and give them a place in his journal. One of these communications—which I will briefly notice—appeared in the *Examiner* of the 9th inst., signed "Common Sense." The writer of it, whom I believe to be some backwoods pedagogue, must have got his "broadcloths" and "white pocket-handkerchief" badly mudded, and himself badly starved among the 'boys' and 'barrens' of Lot 10, on some of his tours through that part of the Island,—and consequently took an aversion to its inhabitants—or he would not have troubled himself so much about their "meeting." Although he might have been born in a "land overflowing with milk and honey," and "more beautiful than a Grecian's dream," he need not look down with contempt on any of his poorer neighbors whom fortune has not favored with so much "common sense" as he pretends to possess.

In case, Mr. Editor, that the writer of the communication which I have just so briefly noticed, should, ere this, have repented of having anything to say on a subject of which he knows nothing,—I will conclude this brief paragraph by giving him two good advices, viz: Read the HERALD attentively once a week; and keep a civil tongue if you would have a sound head.

In bringing this to a close, Sir, I beg leave to tender you my thanks for the able and impartial manner in which you have conducted your valuable and largely-circulated journal, and the great benefit you have done your fellow-countrymen by so plainly and logically showing them, through the columns of the HERALD, the ruin they would undoubtedly work for themselves and their homes should they agree to go into the proposed UNION OF THESE BRITISH AMERICAN COLONIES.

I have the honor to remain, Sir,
Your obedient, humble servant,
AN ANTI-UNIONIST.

Prince County, January 18, 1865.

The Herald.

Wednesday, January 25, 1865.

THE LAND QUESTION.

No. 2.

In treating on this question in our last issue, we made special mention of the Land Commission as one of the Schemes instituted by the party now in power, ostensibly for the settlement of the differences between Proprietors and their tenants, but really for the postponement of such settlement. That it was introduced into our Legislature for such a purpose there can now be very little doubt; and, moreover, we are of opinion that there is not a tenant farmer in the Colony, possessed of ordinary intelligence or perception, who will question the correctness of the statements which we made last week in reference to the insincerity of those who propounded said Commission Scheme. Some may say that there are no just grounds for charging the present Conservative party with a want of good faith in the action they have taken on the Land Question; we think otherwise; we say there are several most substantial reasons why the charge of insincerity should be foisted upon them. It is a well-known fact that when the Liberal Party were in power the Conservatives were frequently twitting them on their want of influence at the Colonial Office and with the Proprietors, as well as on their want of ability to mature and carry to a successful termination any important measure, whether for the amelioration of the condition of the tenantry, or for any other object of less consequence; whilst on the other hand, they were continually boasting of their own wonderful influence at Downing Street, with Sir Samuel Cunard and all the other Proprietors of land in this Island, as well as of their extraordinary ability for conducting public affairs. On the advent to power of the Conservative Party, Colonel Gray, in particular, again and again re- [illegible] unbounded influence which he wielded in various parts of the world, and especially at the Colonial Office. His connection with gentlemen high in the Imperial Government was mentioned almost every time he spoke in the Assembly, in order to remind their "honors" of what wonderful things he could achieve the moment he thought proper to bring his influence to bear in any quarter. Well, then, on the question of influence one of two things is certain: Colonel Gray and his party either had influence at the Colonial Office and with the Proprietors when they were thus boasting, and therefore the means of obtaining redress for the grievances of the tenantry, or they had not; if they did possess any influence, they are certainly to blame for not having made use of it in behalf of the tenantry; and if, as we think is the fact, they did not possess it, then they were [illegible] ceiving and hoodwinking the country by their pretentious to that to which they could lay no claim; in either case they acted unfairly, and, of course, as a natural consequence, do not now deserve to receive the confidence or support of the tenantry.

Consequent upon the Commission, or we may rather say as a sort of twin-brother to that "gigantic humbug" comes the Proprietors' Fifteen Years Purchase Act, or as it is nicely termed in our Statute Book, "An Act for settling differences between Landlord and Tenant, and to enable Tenants on certain Townships to purchase the fee-simple of their Farms." This Act contains everything in the Commissioners' Report which is at all favorable to the Proprietors, and taken all in all, may be justly regarded *The Proprietors' Own*. In its preamble is set forth that "no arrears of Quit Rents, by the original grants reserved, are now due, or recoverable from the Proprietors of such lands; and also that the proprietors should be quieted in their possession of certain parts of the said lands called or known as the 'Fishery Reserves;' and the second section of the Act says that "the hereinbefore recited declarations respecting the arrears of Quit Rents, and also concerning the lands known as the 'Fishery Reserves,' be, and the same are hereby declared to be, binding in law and equity." The third section of the Act after reciting certain arrears of rent which are to be "remitted, released and given up," concludes with the two following comprehensive provisos:—"Provided always, that where any such arrears of rent shall have been secured by judgment at law recovered, and entered up in the Supreme Court of Judicature, in this Island, against any tenant or tenants of the said proprietors respectively, who have refused or neglected to pay their yearly accruing rents, such judgments having been entered up, upon, or at any time previously to the first day of October, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, shall stand good, and may be enforced as well for such arrears, as for rent which may have accrued since the first day of May, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, if any such shall be included in such judgments; and provided, further, and it is hereby declared, that nothing in this Act shall be construed to entitle any tenant, who, subsequent to the first day of May, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, shall have paid a sum larger than was sufficient to cover or liquidate the rent accruing due, between the said first day of May, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, and the time of the passing of this Act, to have the overplus or amount remaining after deducting the rent so accruing between the said first day of May, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, and the time of the passing of this Act, applied in or towards the liquidation or payment of any rent, accruing after the date of the passing of this Act; but such overplus shall be taken and held, to have been appropriated by the landlord, in payment of arrears that accrued due, previous to the said first day of May, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight" It can readily be seen from these declarations and provisoes what measure of success attended the efforts of the Proprietors in their negociations with the present ruling party for the settlement of the Land Question. The large amount due to the Colony for arrears of Quit Rents is given up, and the right to recover such arrears for ever forfeited. The Fishery Reserves, which of right belong to the Colony, are abandoned and the Proprietors "quieted" in their possession of them. The titles of the Proprietors are, of course, confirmed. From the provisoes which we have above given, it can be perceived how admirably the arrears of rent due by the tenants, as also any overplus payments made by them are secured to the Proprietors. In almost all cases in which arrears of rent were due by the tenants the Proprietors or their Agents took particular care to have them secured "by judgment at law recovered, and entered up in the Supreme Court of Judicature, previously to the first day of October, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three." That such is the case there can be little doubt, as the Act was inspired by the Proprietors who, it may very reasonably be presumed, did not omit to secure themselves, and moreover it was, in all probability, drafted by one of them. Every person possessed of a spirit of fairness can see that it would be only common justice to "remit, release and give up," all the arrears of rents to the tenants who are far better entitled to such remission than the Proprietors are to be relieved from the payment of the arrears of Quit Rents. But the Proprietors' Agents in our Legislature determined otherwise; they enacted that the Proprietors be relieved from the payment of all arrears of Quit Rents, whilst the tenants must pay all arrears due by them to the Proprietors. With reference to the overplus payments, every person can see that it would be nothing more than justice to the tenants that they should be applied "in or towards the liquidation or payment of any rent, accruing after the date of the passing of this Act." But the Proprietors would not make any such allowance to the tenantry, and, of course, the "Powers that be" had to agree with them.

R. P. HAYTHORNE, ESQ., ON CONFEDERATION.

WE copy from the last *Islander* a communication on the Confederation Question, over the signature of "R. P. Haythorne." This gentleman, whose education and position eminently qualify him to give a correct and impartial opinion upon the all-absorbing topic of Union, takes pretty nearly the same view of the scheme as we have. He also brings out some additional points which we had overlooked, and his communication will serve to keep fresh in the memories of our readers the many defects which we have already pointed out in the Constitution prepared by the Quebec Convention—a Constitution which was framed amid pleasure and revelry—which has all the evils of a monarchy without any of the advantages of a Republic—and which is now attempted to be foisted upon us as the most perfect that could be devised by men. Had each of the Delegates who took part in the proceedings at the Quebec Conference the reputation of patriotism as pure as that of a Cincinnatus, a Tell or a Washington, and statesmanship as comprehensive as that of a Charlemagne or a Peter the Great, it were utterly impossible within the same time and by the same process employed by the Quebec Conference, to prepare a Constitution for a wide and deversified territory, so perfect in all its details as to be beyond the reach of criticism or amendment. But when we know that many of the Delegates have before now given each other characters for doubtful patriotism, morality and honesty, and when we have seen them change their avowed and carefully weighed opinions upon Union with a facility and suddenness truly astonishing, we may well criticise their legislation and their statements, and reject their proposals. We may be denounced as "ignorant," "presumptuous," "impudent," etc., etc., for giving expression to these views; but we beg to tell the champions of Confederation that we have studied scholars, patriots politicians and statesmen as far superior to those who constituted the Quebec Conference, as the effulgence of the noon-day sun is superior to that of a tallow candle. We are too familiar with the history of Burke, Peel, Washington, &c., &c., to bow down with servility to Colonial politicians, whose reputations and motives are not by any means above suspicion, nor do we consider their judgment superior to that of any man who pays the slightest attention to passing events, or who is even moderately versed in ancient or modern history. The time, we know, will arrive when these Provinces will change their political Constitution and assume a different position from that now occupied by them in the eyes of the world. That time cannot be accelerated, nor can our position be improved by the hasty efforts and the offensive attitude of politicians, however able and disinterested they may be. Canada, in all probability, has reason to dread the resentment of the neighboring States—a country which has been the best friend of that Colony as also of this; but a better method of averting invasion and the horrors of war than even the marshalling of volunteers and militiamen throughout a thinly settled, poor and widely extended territory, would be to take effectual steps to put a stop to the raids into a friendly country of thieves and plunderers who seek to disturb the peace of the empire by their indefensible and wanton destruction of private property, or punish them as they deserve when captured. Should Canada do this, and her journals cease to abuse and exasperate the Americans, there would then be no necessity—as the Unionists assert there now is—why the people of these Provinces, who seek to live in amity with the world, should weigh themselves down with enormously increased taxation to repel a dreaded attack from the neighboring Republic—a country which has in the past proved of immense benefit to us—which is the abode of a large number of Provincialists—and whose interests, commercial and otherwise, will insure to us, if we act honestly, its friendship in the future. We know that the Americans are at the present time much exasperated against England and her Colonies, and feel disposed to have a war with the Empire; but before entering upon so serious an undertaking, the Republic would, upon the suppression of the rebellion—a contingency which we look upon as not far distant—endeavor to recuperate its strength by some three or four years of peace. To decrease the debt of the Union, the army would, to all intents and purposes, be dissolved, as every intelligent American admits that a standing army in time of peace would not be tolerated. With the return of peace, therefore, and the disbanding of the army, composed as it is of mechanics and laborers, who would revert to their former peaceful employments without loss of time, the ill-will which just now obtains in the American mind would greatly subside, and, in fact, altogether disappear. The counsels of self-interest would in the end prevail, and the American Government would long hesitate before engaging in a war with the most powerful nation in the world—a war which must prove vastly destructive to American commerce and property, and retard the progress and prosperity of the Republic for a quarter of a century. We look upon the alarm, therefore, to which Provincial Confederationists pretend as a mere bugbear, and we believe that any war which may arise on this Continent will not have for its object the annexation of the British American Provinces, but the more practical one of sweeping from Mexican soil the branch of Imperialism recently planted there by the Emperor Napoleon. Nothing could be more congenial to the American heart than this; nor could any scheme be propounded better calculated to be popular with the masses and to reconcile both North and South. In the meantime, the Provinces would be increasing in wealth and population and preparing the way by preliminary legislation for an equitable and reasonable political Union. We look upon the time as having gone by when scheming politicians, and even the Imperial Government,—should it be so unwise as to make the attempt—can force the people of these Colonies into a form of Government to which they are averse, and it will be a question with them whether, in the event of the Mother Country casting them adrift, it would be wiser on their part to make friendship with the Americans, whose origin and interests are identical with our own, or ruin themselves with oppressive taxation in endeavoring to resist an invasion which, if undertaken, would be overpowering.

SUPREME COURT.

THE case between the Heirs of the late Mr. Paul Mabey and Mr. Francis James, which occupied the Supreme Court for nine days, terminated on Saturday last. The action was commenced by a Writ of Distress for rent, levied on the goods and chattels of Mr James, who held under a Lease from Mr. Mabey, on which was an endorsement releasing him from the payment of rent after the death of the Lessor. The cause was brought into the Supreme Court by Replevin and was tried before Mr. Justice Peters and a Special Jury. The issue involved the state of Mr. Mabey's mind at the time of making the endorsement. In his very able charge to the Jury, His Lordship remarked, that Mabey might be competent to make a testamentary devise, which he pronounced the endorsement to be, and not at the same time be sufficiently sane to make a valid deed. After a short consultation, the Jury returned a verdict for the Defendant, under the testamentary devise, but pronounced Mabey to have been insane at the time of making it. In accordance with this verdict all deeds made by Mabey during the period of his insanity are of course invalid. The case was conducted for the Plaintiffs by the Attorney General, Messrs. Hensley, Haviland, Brecken and Hodgson, and for the Defendant by Messrs. C. Palmer, Longworth and McLeod. If our space permitted, we would give a full report of the case which was one of considerable importance, and was conducted on both sides with tact and ability.