

The present Union cry is—"patience, and trust in providence." It is interesting to note the "trimming" process, now being carried out by the "Botheration" organs.

James Conners, for coming to the station, having no place of residence, sentenced to 30 days hard labour." (*Tele.*—Police Report, Saturday, March 4th.)—*Unionist*.

We are aware that in the eyes of Society poverty is one of the gravest of crimes, but this is the first instance brought to our notice of poverty being viewed as a Penal offence, against the laws of any civilized community. The *Unionist* is, doubtless, looking forward to a time when all the poor shall be rooted out of the mighty Empire, that is to astonish the world; even at the cost of individual rights. But, seriously, we trust that this poor wretch was not committed to Prison for poverty unaccompanied by any direct breach of the laws.

NATURAL ENOUGH.—When James takes Smith by the button hole, and tells him that he (Smith) is without exception, the finest and the handsomest fellow it has ever been his (Jones') lot to meet, the chances are that Smith will, in his turn, say something civil and complimentary. It is, therefore, by no means strange that the *Canadian News* should speak very highly of Mr. Lynch's speech at Temperance Hall. We regret that our published opinions of the oration in question were less laudatory, but—a prophet hath no honor in his own country.

Extracts.

THE NORTH AMERICAN FEDERATION.

If, as Lord DERBY observed, the Speech of the Lords Commissioners was in some respects an appropriate address from an aged Minister to a moribund Parliament, it was not without one paragraph which testified to the youth and vigour of the British Empire. Disintegration is supposed to be the regular mode of dissolution for decrepit monarchies, but the process which is now going on among the most important of the offshoots of Great Britain is one of consolidation, and not of division. The formation of a colonial nation of nearly four millions of inhabitants will, in all probability, signalize the present Session, and make it memorable long after the world has forgotten much busier and more stirring conflicts than this Parliament is likely now to witness. The announcement in the Speech, and the address of Lord MONCK to the Canadian Legislature, seem to assign to the Home Government a larger share in the initiation of this great project than has been supposed to belong to them. It is at any rate certain that the Conference which sat at Quebec was assembled by the express invitation of the Governor-General of Canada, acting, of course, with the fullest sanction of his superiors; and the cordial manner in which the conclusions of the colonial statesmen have been accepted will go far to remove any difficulties which might impede the success of the proposed Federation. It was no part of Lord DERBY's cue to admit the importance of any of the announcements which the Speech of the Lords Commissioners contained, he said enough to make it plain that the Federation of the North American Colonies will not be made a party battle-ground. The chief danger which may await the Bill announced for giving effect to the proposed Union will perhaps arise from the whims and crochets of individual members, but the absolute necessity of a thorough knitting together of the Provinces which border on the Federal States is so obvious at this moment, that even the pleasure of devising ingenious machinery for a new Constitution will scarcely tempt any rational English politician to put obstacles in the way of the Colonial scheme. There has never, since the report of the Conference was published, been much doubt that all the Provincial Legislatures would ratify the work of their leading statesmen; and now that an American fleet may be looked for upon the Lakes, and that American custom-house officers will soon block up all the roads of commercial intercourse, any lingering hesitation as to the expediency of union must be effectually banished from the Colonial mind. The United States cannot be expected to feel much satisfaction at the establishment of a closely united Government in place of the independent authorities who could scarcely have combined with effect for common defence. Something of the same feeling which sometimes elicits from France indignant protests against union among her neighbours is natural enough in the dominions of Mr. LINCOLN. Both countries feel aggrieved, as a matter of course, by any arrangement which threatens to make their neighbours less easily devoured; yet, if the Americans had desired to insure the project against all risk of failure, they could not have done so more effectually than by their notices to terminate the Reciprocity Treaty and the neutrality of the great Lakes. It is not quite true, as has been very generally assumed, that the necessities of military defence were the moving cause of the project of Colonial Federation. For many years past, aspirations more or less definite, in this direction, had been struggling for some sort of realization; and all that the threatening attitude of the United States can be said to have done has been to infuse into the councils of the colonists an earnestness and unanimity for want of which, at another time, the best-devised scheme of union might have proved abortive.

Lord MONCK's speech at the opening of the Provincial Parliament does not fall justice to the most momentous question which the Canadians have ever had to decide for themselves. In measured and dignified language he puts before them the alternatives between which the public men of British North America will have to choose—whether the vast country which they inhabit shall be consolidated into a state combining within its arms all the elements of national greatness, providing for the

security of its component parts, and contributing to the strength and stability of the Empire, or whether the several Provinces shall remain in their fragmentary and isolated condition, comparatively powerless for mutual aid, and incapable of undertaking their proper share of Imperial responsibility. Those who listened to these words could scarcely have failed to think of the possible consequences of the hostile disposition which has been lately manifested by their republican neighbours, though Lord MONCK judiciously avoided any express reference to irritating topics, and conveyed to the people of the United States only the assurance that Canada would not fail in the performance of the duties of a neutral and friendly State. The outrages committed by Confederate partisans are not attempted to be palliated, while the entire freedom of Canada from any responsibility for what has occurred is shown by the readiness with which measures of prevention have been at once devised. Not only have Volunteers been detached to maintain peace on the frontier, and a special police been organized for the detection of refugee plots, but a Bill is about to be introduced into the Legislature for the purpose of arming the Executive with additional powers. In all this there is nothing which does not redound to the credit of the Province, and the Federals will probably find themselves greatly mistaken if they interpret acts done from a sense of international duty as indications of fear or expressions of sympathy. The only proceeding of an ambiguous character has been the ill-judged persecution of a judge who, in strict accordance with the law as he understood it, and probably rightly understood it—pronounced a decision which might have entailed some political inconvenience. Upon the whole the attitude of Canada has been worthy of the aspirations which have prompted her to move in the project of Colonial Federation. The next mail may bring the news that the creation of the new nationality is complete so far as the voices of its constituents can determine it, and that nothing remains but for the British Parliament to give its final sanction to the work at which the statesmen of North America have so wisely and patriotically laboured.

On the eve of a political change of such great importance, it is satisfactory to find the Canadians displaying the same manly spirit which distinguished them before the long period of peace which they have enjoyed under the protection of Great Britain. The recent call upon the Volunteers to occupy the frontier, with the avowed and immediate purpose of checking irregular encroachments upon the territories of a churlish neighbour, would perhaps have been less eagerly responded to if it had not been felt that the same weapon which repressed Confederate raiders would serve, on occasion, to defend the Canadian soil. It would need a vast army of Volunteers to line the long stretch of frontier between the Colony and the United States, and indeed it is not likely that so extended a line of defence would be occupied in the event of hostilities; but enough has been done on the American Continent to show what a determined nation of four millions might do in self-defence. The material for very effective armies lies unused in the plains of Canada, and the alacrity displayed by the few Volunteers who have been called out for permanent service may be accepted as an earnest of the spirit with which the people of British North America would unite, as they have united before, in resistance to aggression. That the occasion to test their martial ardour will never arise from an undue pugnacity on the part of England may, after recent experience, be taken for granted; but it is impossible to be blind to the fact that the termination of the Reciprocity Treaty will reopen many grounds of difference between Canadian and American subjects, and that the existence of two jealous fleets watching each other on the Northern Lakes will add to the already sufficient risk of some outrage against this country or her colonies which may call for instant redress. The animosity which has evidently prompted the proceedings of Mr. LINCOLN's Government will not facilitate the adjustment of any difficulties that may arise, or diminish the necessity of vigilance on the Canadian side of the border. It may be that, when the civil war ends, the Americans will subside into meekness and cultivate the amenities of international intercourse, but the opposite effect of a long course of belligerent excitement might be regarded as at least possible even if it were not daily predicted by New York editors and Washington statesmen on the stump. It is well, therefore, to know that Canada is on the alert, and that no long time will elapse before she will form part of a Confederacy which, even without the aid that this country would be prompt to render, will have no mean powers of self-defence.—*London Saturday Review*.

THE VAMPIRE.

Many changes have taken place in education as well as in other departments—perhaps I should say more particularly in education—since it was my lot to be usher in N— Grammar School: a position that the reader may not be disposed to question, when I state that some twenty years have elapsed since the time I allude to.

I visited N— last summer, and of course renewed at once my acquaintance with the old Grammar School. There it was, as well as I remembered it of old, rearing its weather-beaten front in the High Street; and as I sat in the coffee-room of the White Hart immediately opposite, its external features seemed to recall to me the various events that had taken place during my sojourn there. There was the old gateway and the massive oaken door, through which the boys trooped daily at the summons of the shrill but not unmelodious bell above. Hark, it is going now! After all these years, what a thrill of memory that once so familiar sound awakens within me! That heavy mullioned window to the right is, or was, the doctor's study, and the black patch in the centre of the window, when viewed from within, resolves itself into the armoial bearings of the founder of the Grammar School—a shield argent charged with a cross vert, the crest an eagle preying, and for a motto "En plein jour." For the life of me I cannot recall the founder's