

and Schiller, who had been dismissed by the Macdonald-Dorion government. It is generally known that these gentlemen were selected as the victims of political vengeance, and were dealt with in a most cruel and unjustifiable manner. We are not called upon here to defend their slandered character, as they have already, and can again, protect themselves; but we are unable to detect in what respect the author can hope to injure Confederation by shewing that Messrs. Howland, McDougall, and Ferguson Blair—on being convinced that the dismissal of those officials had been improperly decided upon—agreed to have them reinstated. He cannot intend to insinuate that Reformers could possibly be guilty of anything but strict justice to injured officials!

After launching several pages of diatribes at the Coalition Government, he concludes that branch of his subject with the following admirable sample of logic:

"These things are not mentioned as facts 'in which the People or Legislature of England ought to have any interest; nor to show that wrong has been done by the action of the Coalition Government; but to point out that the first and necessary consequence of the Confederation policy has been to suspend the Constitution, as the accomplishment of the project in the way now solicited in England will be to destroy it."

If the people of England have no interest in these things; if the Coalition has done no wrong, we ask the author of the pamphlet why print pages of THESE THINGS? But now for the reason as he gives it. Because all these heinous crimes have been committed, although "the Coalition have done no wrong by their action," the "Constitution has been suspended;" and if Confederation be confirmed in England, he holds that our Constitution will be utterly destroyed. It will simply be the same Constitution in another and better form.

Instead of a suspension of the Constitution, the business of the country has been carried on with unprecedented vigor under this Government, as shewn by the frequent important meetings of the Executive, and the valuable Reports of the different Public Departments in every branch of the Service. As our Constitution is modelled on that of Great Britain, the Ministry of the day being responsible to Parliament, and as the Coalition possesses the confidence of a crushing majority in both

Houses, we consider that Mr. Penny has signally failed in his proof.

"No sooner, however, was this policy of 'Confederation introduced as a practical measure, than Mr. Cardwell, without waiting for the expression of the popular will, signified his gracious patronage and support of the 'newly formed scheme of the Canadian Government. A scheme, like all others in our system, making part of the policy of a party, and not the less so because that party had been made large by means which strike at the foundation of the British system of Parliamentary Government."

This is a text that might form, or furnish, matter for a lengthy dissertation. Confederation was certainly introduced as "a practical measure," and Mr. Cardwell, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, looking upon the fervid expression of opinion offered by the principal Colony (Canada), as a fair justification of his action, proposed to the Maritime Provinces through the Lieut. Governors of those parts of Her Majesty's dominions, the advocacy and adoption of the same sound English principles which had animated the leading Provinces (Upper and Lower Canada) of the proposed Confederation.

That "the reproach of disloyalty was cast" upon those who opposed Confederation, we do not deny as regards New Brunswick. The writer of this article confidently asserts that the first general election alluded to by Mr. Penny, by which Confederation was condemned in New Brunswick, was carried by American influence, through money from the State of Maine, and mainly owing to the Fenian propensities of the Anglin-Smith press of that Province. So soon as a revulsion in public feeling had taken place, the folly of the past gave way to the wisdom of the present, and when Lieut-Governor Gordon discovered that the mass of New Brunswick favored a Union of the Provinces, actuated, no doubt, by the double reason of Imperial sanction and hitherto deceived public opinion, he, very properly, used his official position to hold the Province of New Brunswick as a dependency of the British Government. The vote of the Legislative Council of that Province was, as Mr. Penny naively admits, a very great disappointment to the Anti-Confederates. Another election was held, and Confederation, as proposed by Mr. Tilley, sailed triumphant through the struggle.