

Nova Scotia. Reading the life of Howe, and knowing the life of Whelan, one cannot but note a close resemblance between them. Howe, perhaps, was a little ahead of his time. Whelan looked for the confederation of the British provinces. Howe went further, and wanted a reconstruction of the Empire. But Howe did not neglect the present for the future, and his great abilities were brought into play in helping to right the wrongs of the day and generation in which he lived. The battles which Howe fought in Nova Scotia Whelan fought on Prince Edward Island. Both had the same greedy, arrogant aristocracy to fight, and both won the day. Both were confederates, Whelan more pronounced, perhaps, than Howe. Howe, however, fought the scheme which eventually triumphed. Whelan helped to make it.

Edward Whelan was born in County Mayo, Ireland, in 1824, where he received the rudiments of education. When a mere lad he landed in Halifax, where he entered the printing office of Joseph Howe. At the age of 18 he had served his apprenticeship and had developed considerable talent as a writer. That he was ambitious is shown from the fact that he immediately undertook to secure a field in which to establish a paper of his own. He went to Prince Edward Island. Here he saw a field ready for the laborer. The harvest, to his idea, was ripe. Back he went to Halifax and secured the old press, as above recorded. First he printed a paper called *The Palladium*. This venture was wrecked on the shoals of limited finances, but Whelan was not disheartened, and soon *The Examiner* made its appearance. It came to stay. This same paper is now a flourishing daily, and carries the motto credited to Euripides: "This is true liberty, when free-born men, having to advise the public, may speak free." That motto was put on the paper by Whelan, and has been well adhered to ever since. Whelan's power of pen and voice soon became felt. He took up the people's cause, and fought the ground inch by inch, slowly but surely driving the family compact to the wall. He soon secured a seat in Parliament, which he held for 21 years, or until a short time previous to his death. To his efforts Prince Edward Island owes its free school system, and in owing that debt to Whelan the island owes it to a Roman Catholic. He loved his church and he loved his people. He loved the people. He was essentially a child of the people. But if his heart warmed more towards those of his own race and creed it was only natural. He saw that the Irish Catholic lads and lasses were not making the advancement they should. Pecuniary circumstances handicapped them in the race with their Protestant neighbors. Whelan equalized matters by introducing the free school system and carrying it to a successful conclusion. The excellent system now on the island will stand as a lasting monument to his memory. Whelan represented in Parliament the district of St. Peter's, which was largely Roman Catholic. But he never ran an election without a Protestant colleague, whom he always carried to victory.

Whelan died at Charlottetown, on the 11th of December, 1867, at the early age of 43—just 29 years ago. The immediate cause of his death was dropsy, but the real cause was a broken heart. Political feelings 30 years ago swayed human passions very much as they do to-day. Then men suffered at the hands of their own, and they do so to-day. The church was subservient to party feelings then, and it is so to-day.

Of the personality of Whelan I have some knowledge. To

the outside world he appeared reserved. In his own house he was a prince. The great in the land supped his wine and the poor never left his door empty handed. He possessed a large, warm heart, which joined in the sorrows or joys of others. As a husband and father he was kind and indulgent, even to a fault. He had a family of two daughters and one son. The daughters went before him and the son followed after. Whelan was a great Confederate, but, strange to say, his only son perished by a boating accident on the first celebration of that event on the island, July 1st, 1875. He was a young man of great promise and was only in his 19th year.

In the old Roman Catholic graveyard, on St. Peter's road, Charlottetown, there rests the Whelan family, with the exception of the widow, who is waiting patiently for the command. A plain marble slab, almost hidden by the tall grass, marks the resting place of the departed statesman. It was placed there by the son who now sleeps beside him. And here comes another similarity between Whelan and Howe. The body of the latter lies in Camp Hill cemetery, Halifax. Last year an effort was made to raise, by popular subscription, an amount sufficient to cover the cost of a monument to his memory. Whether the scheme was badly worked, or whatever was the cause, only a small amount of money was collected, and now the project seems dead. *Prince Edward Islanders* made several attempts to erect a monument to Whelan, but, like the one referred to, they all bloomed and blossomed for a short season and then died.

Howe was Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia when he died. He died poor. Whelan died poor, but although he was a great man in his own province he never rose to be Premier. Premier he was, but not in name. People were not so tolerant in his day as they are now, and the religion which he practised was the bar to political advancement. The Hon. W. W. Sullivan, a Roman Catholic, who represented Whelan's old constituency, saw this barrier removed when he became Premier of the island. He is now Chief Justice.

Edward Whelan married Mary Major Hughes, daughter of George Hughes, of H. S. Service, Halifax.

In concluding, let me say that the Historical Society should not allow this old press to continue its meanderings. They should purchase it and have it stored among the treasures of the brilliant past.

GERMAN VS. BRITISH MANUFACTURERS.

Much is being said about the German manufacturers running away with English trade. The figures published by the Board of Trade entirely contradict this statement. This year British exports to Germany increased $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., while imports from Germany increased only $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. In 1895 exports to Germany increased 16 per cent., while imports from Germany remained stationary. So we see that the British manufacturers both years have more than held their own. It is to be noticed, however, that the difference in the trade of the two countries is less in 1896 than in 1895. This means that Germany has gained some ground during the past year.

The Phoenix Printing Ink Co. has been placed in liquidation. Mr. N. P. Lamoureux has been appointed curator. The creditors decided to carry on the business as heretofore.