

the most vigorous opposition possible, within the limits of the law.

Railways, Canals, Bridges, &c.

Do not conclude from the nature and length of this communication, that I regard nothing but political forms and organic changes, in our faulty constitution—that I am indifferent to the material amelioration of the country, to the multiplication of canals, bridges, railroads, light-houses and wharves. Every individual who invests capital in works of this kind, merits well of society, and ought to obtain easily from the Legislature the laws necessary for the execution of their laudable enterprises; at the same time, however, that the community is protected against immoderate profits. Useful enterprises, which exceed the means of individuals, ought often to be encouraged by the state! but then with knowledge and conscience—integrity and science, giving beforehand correct estimates of the nature and value of the works to be undertaken, in order that those which are most necessary should have the preference. Every absorption of capital in a foolish enterprise represses those which are useful.

Free Trade.—Low Taxes.

As to free trade, and the free navigation of the St. Lawrence, I wish for them, and will sustain them, with all my power. A disciple of the school of Adam Smith from my earliest youth—and at all times the enemy of every political or commercial monopoly or privilege, I do not desire that any industry, or any class of citizens should be surcharged, for the profit of other classes and other industries. The imposts ought to be the minimum of that which it is necessary to receive from each citizen in proportion to his fortune and his expenditure, in order to provide for the just expenses of an economical and well managed government.

Constitutional Reforms.

I have spoken of constitutional reforms with more of detail and ardour than of material improvements, because they are of a higher order—because it is necessary to have free institutions, well calculated to protect the property of each individual, in order to make all love that labour which renders nations more moral and more rich, and gives them the means of multiplying their material improvement, as is proved by their prodigiously rapid development amongst our active and industrious neighbours—lastly, because others do not speak to you enough about them; because, also, material improvements belong to the order of the day, for there is no difference as to their powerful efficacy in promoting the well-being of those societies which facilitate them.

The Schoolmaster for All.

Lastly, I will conclude by communicating with you, on a subject, which in importance yields to none of those already treated of—that of popular education, and of the most general character, which may be possible. In the advanced state of modern civilization, the priest, the judge, and the schoolmaster, are the functionaries who contribute the best, the most, and at the least expense, to the maintenance of order in society, which, day by day, in proportion as instruction is extended, is more easy to be governed by reason, more difficult to be governed by brutal and armed force. The more you pay schoolmasters, the less you pay policemen and soldiers, and in the civil service of the state you will have more enlightened functionaries, at least cost, in proportion to the increased number whom education will qualify. Competition will reduce salaries. Cheap Government can only be had where there are plenty of good school-

masters. There is no money so well disbursed as that thus usefully expended to avoid useless expense.

Farming in Lower Canada & New York.

You do not doubt that a rich man who sees a poor one suffering from hunger, is obliged to give him the nourishment which may allay his sufferings. But the mind has its necessities as the body has. The duties of humanity are badly fulfilled, if the wants of the body are only supplied, without any aid being given to those of the mind. Would that those who make the mistake, of being indifferent to general instruction, would give themselves the pleasure of a journey to the United States, to see how much more at their ease the farmers are there than here; on how many bad lands they reap more than we on our good ones—why their poor lands sell at ten times as much as our rich ones. They will receive a uniform answer; we owe it to our good government, and our good schools. They will return from their trip changed and convinced; ardent friends of good schools and good government. I am Gentlemen, with profound respect, your obedient servant,

L. J. PAPINEAU.

December, 1847.

REPEAL OF THE UNION.

QUEBEC, MAY 18, 1855.—The House of Assembly was about to sit in Committee to vote away public revenue. Mr. Cayley moved that the Speaker do leave the chair, when Mr. Mackenzie, in amendment, proposed that it be "Resolved that the best interests of Upper and Lower Canada would be promoted by an immediate repeal or dissolution of the political or Legislative Union now subsisting between these sections of the Province of Canada."

Sir Allan MacNab rose to say, that when members of the House of Commons did not want to hear certain discussions they knew how to cough down useless debates, or words to that effect, upon which his followers set up a howl, drummed on their desks, and shouted so that there could be no argument. This was kept up for three quarters of an hour, and (Messrs. Christie, Frazer, and Merritt, who would have voted yea, being absent at the moment) a vote was taken, and resulted in 14 Lower Canada ayes to 30 noes—6 Upper Canada ayes to 24 noes.

Yeas: Atkins, Biggar, Bourassa, Bureau, Daoust, Darche, Dorion, Dufresne, Guevremont, Hartman, Huot, Jobin, Laberge, Larwill, Mackenzie, Marchildon, Prevost, Rolph, Valois, and A. Wright.—20.

Nays: Brown, Cartier, Cauchon, Cayley, Chabot, Chauveau, Church, Clarke, Crawford, Daly, Delong, Drummond, Foley, Gill, Holton, Lumsden, McDonald, of Cornwall, MacNab, Masson, Matheson, J. C. Morrison, Murney, Niles, Patrick, Rankin, Robinson, Sanborn, Shaw, Somerville, Southwick, Spence, Stevenson, Terrell, Smith of Port Hope, Smith of Kingston, Turcott, &c.—54.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.—Franklin Pierce, N. H. President, Salary \$25,000, The Cabinet, 7 members, \$8,000 a year each, viz., J. Guthrie, Ky., Sec. Treasury; R. McClelland, Mich., Sec. Interior; J. C. Dobbin, N. C., Sec. Navy; Jeff. Davis, Mi., Sec. War; Jas. Campbell, Pa., Postmaster General; C. Cushing, Attorney General. U. S. Senate, 62 members. House of Representatives, 234 members.