

and a fuller consideration of the question, they came to the conclusion that a Union of the Colonies would be a general advantage? I will venture to say that all the gold in the Provincial chest would not have tempted such a man as Mr. Smyth, of Inverness, for example, either to vote or act contrary to what he believed to be the best interests of his county and his Province; and the same may be said of all the others. For when we look to the men, to their public career, and to their private character, we feel convinced that no influence and no temptation would induce them to betray their country. The idle slander is unworthy even of the amount of attention that has been given it.

THE SUPPORTERS OF UNION.

If we look around us we will find that a measure which has been represented as so one-sided and ruinous, has been singularly favored in the support it has received. When it was first mooted, the principle of Union had not in these Colonies, so far as we are aware, a single opponent. It was advocated by Lord Durham in one of the ablest reports ever written; and though not acted upon, was approved by every statesman, British and Colonial, of the day. No man was a more eloquent, no man was so fervid and eloquent an advocate of Union, as the Hon. Mr. Howe. He has since changed his ground, and we find no fault with him for having done so. But the facts and arguments he pressed home, the burning words, and the glowing colors in which he set forth the advantages of Union, live to-day in all their freshness and energy, while he has failed entirely in convincing the public mind that that for which he once pleaded with so much earnestness is but a hollow delusion. Still I would complain of no man for turning his back even upon his own most cherished opinions; but we not unreasonably expect that some explanation will be given for the change—an explanation that possesses the merit of being intelligible. This is a part of the subject however on which it is unnecessary to dwell, as it has been exhausted several times over by others. Whatever facts or arguments Mr. Howe can bring forward to-day against a Union of the Colonies are worthy of respect and attention, in proportion to their force and truth. If it can be proved that they outweigh those which a few short years ago he adduced in its favor,