

Whelan any other than an Irish Catholic, the Government would not dare to execute him after *four* out of *nine*—I exclude the Judge before whom the trial was conducted—on appeal declaring that *he shall get a new trial*. It was a strictly Tory victory. It is too soon to forget how, at the "Fenian" trials in Toronto, the priest was convicted and the minister acquitted, although the evidence of guilt was in inverse ratio:—another Conservative triumph.

In that season of trial, when stout hearts quailed, when every hand was raised against us, there was one man who was not afraid to stand by us, and hurl anathema at the tyrant. That man is the Hon. Malcolm Cameron—one of nature's nobles. For this the good man got his reward by being dismissed from the Queen's printership at the earliest opportunity. In this great man—for if the "good alone are great," he is truly great—Irish Catholics have no truer or better friend on this Continent. Yet, strange fatality, they signify their appreciation of it by opposing him on every occasion that he has sought their suffrages. Our Lord, on the cross of Calvary, prayed for those who crucified him, saying:—"Father forgive them, they know not what they do." We might repeat here His Divine example. The *Globe* was the only paper who had a word of condemnation of this cruelty. No doubt it was afraid to say much, lest it, too, might be branded as a "Fenian" sympathizer.

CONFEDERATION.

In the "British North America Act" of 1867, called the Confederation Act, special constitutional privileges are secured to the Protestant minority of Quebec. Twelve constituencies are set apart, whose boundaries cannot be altered except with the concurrence of a majority of their representatives. These are what may be denominated *Protestant counties*. But as if they determined to add insult to injury, the majority of the population of five of these Protestant counties respectively is Catholic, some of them, as the County of Ottawa, nearly three to one. The five electoral counties which the constitution by inference has falsely declared to be Protestant are Ottawa, Pontiac, Shefford, Megantic and Richmond, and Wolfe. Were the people of these counties thus scandalized because at the time they happened to be represented by Protestant Conservative members? Why was not Chateauguay so treated? Is it because it was represented by a Protestant Liberal? But the most extraordinary feature of this strange transaction is that their wealth and influence with a preponderance in all the other Provinces was not deemed sufficient protection for the Protestant minority of Quebec, but must invoke