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A dispatch of one of the City papers

announces that the Quebec Conference has concluded its labors and agreed to a report. This

will probably not be made public for some time—perhaps not until it is laid before the

Legislature.

The prevailing feeling is that the plan or

scheme whatever it is should at once be pub-

lished in full, and after the people have had

ample time to give it due consideration, in

whole and in detail, the Legislature should be

dissolved and a general election held to afford

the people the means of determining constitu-

tional whether this great change should now

be made, and in the manner arranged at the

Conference. But, if the statements made in

Canadian and American papers are correct, the

Delegates seem to have determined that the

people shall not be consulted, that the matter

shall not be referred to them, but that the re-

presentatives whom they have never directly

authorised to vote a deed shall be called on to

vote away, shall we say it? (i) the Legisla-

tive independence of this Province. We can

scarcely imagine that the Delegates and the

Governments they represent have resolved on

anything so monstrous, but all the accounts

'at' have been published agree on this point.

Not one says that the question will be sub-

mitted to the people. This, indeed, may well

be called a "high handed" proceeding. The

very last dispatch to the American press,

which has reached St. John, says:—

"Quebec, Oct. 28.—The Conference is pro-

ceeding satisfactorily. The financial ques-

tions are settled, and the Conference will ad-

journe this week. The arrangements are to be

embodied in a bill, and submitted to the dif-

ferent local legislatures.

Let us hope that for decency's sake, the

scheme and all its details will be made pub-

lic at once, or at least as soon as our Delegates

return from Toronto, or Hamilton, or Niagara,

where they are finally to separate.

The people have hitherto regarded this whole

proceeding as a mystery, and a mystery it

remains. They could not believe that there was

anything real in it; that the Delegates would

ever agree, or that the question of Confedera-

tion, so remote did it appear, required any

consideration from them. Indeed such was the

mystery in which the whole proceedings were

shrouded, they saw only the most vague

ideas of what this Confederation actually

meant. Few can imagine what it really

means as it actually is, and as it is defined by

the Conference. The people must now awake

to the conviction that some great change is

proposed, and that it will take place unless

they express their disapproval, and in the most

emphatic and decided manner to the

Legislature. They should have ample time to

consider, weigh and decide whether they ought to

approve or disapprove of a measure which, if it

is not received, will be embodied in a bill, and

will be carried into effect by the Legislature.

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The Conference.

The Delegates are now represented by the

Canadian press as conspirators against the

rights and liberties of the people of the Pro-

vinces. They have, we are told, yet to be

held before the people, and the organs of the

Canadian Government inform us that they do not

intend to make public until the Legislature

meets; that the people are really to be held as

of account whatever, and the members of the

Legislature, to whom such power was never

expressly given, are to be asked to adopt the

scheme, and that the Delegates feel quite con-

fident that they can get the necessary bills passed.

The Toronto Leader, supposed to be the organ

of Hon. J. A. McDonald, tells us that:—

"Injunctions of secrecy are still imposed on

members and the scheme will not be promul-

gated till the several Legislatures meet."

"It is still undetermined whether the scheme

adopted by the Conference will be submitted to

the people of the various Provinces. There is

a strong desire in the Conference to avoid the

necessity of doing so, if possible. The result

of the recent report of satisfaction to the

leading members of all the Provinces, and they

are confident of being able to carry the scheme

in the several Legislatures."

"There is clearly a conspiracy to defraud and

cheat the people out of the right to determine

for themselves whether this Union shall now

take place. At a crisis like the present there

is no use in mincing matters, or selecting soft

words. We would banish from the controversy

on this great question all acerbity, all

personality, all party feeling, and deal with it

on its merits alone, but the truth must be

spoken plainly."

The provinces will not be consulted; the

people of the Province on a question in which

they are most deeply interested, will be

employed by such means as have been frequently

employed before to get a majority of the Legis-

lature to destroy, and for ever, the Legisla-

tive independence of their country, and if the

people are willing to submit tamely to such

treatment, to be so bought and sold, never-

theless, the people of the Province will be

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theless, the people of the Province will be

some fixed standard to the general revenue

to get back a portion of that excess to be

expended by the local legislatures. Now we

are told that the Inter-colonial railroad is to

pay us all the money we may contribute,

and that we shall have the sublime privilege

of imposing taxes on ourselves, we are told

that we shall have the sublime privilege of

expending any money we may be sure is all

for the very purpose of preventing the people

from expressing in any way their

opinion of a scheme which will never be

submitted to them if the Delegates and the

Governments have their own way.

At a special meeting of the Stockholders of

the Commercial Bank, held on Wednesday,

it was resolved to petition the Legislature for

the passage of a bill in amendment of the

charter. By this, it was, the number of direc-

tors will be reduced from thirteen to five—

wished the number to be seven, but they were

outvoted, and at each election the Stock-

holders will be required to re-elect only five

of the directors of the previous year, of whom

the President shall be one. At present the

charter requires that seven of the thirteen

should be re-elected. It was proposed that

the Stockholders should be bound to re-elect

only the President, but this was lost. It was

also proposed that no notes should be dis-

cussed without the approval of the President,

but this was lost.

Notice of a resolution that the Stock of

the bank be reduced so that the payment of

dividends may be resumed, was given at the

annual meeting. In lieu of this it was now

proposed that the Legislature be asked to

authorize the directors to pay dividends out of

the actual earnings of the Bank on \$480,000,

the capital remaining nominally \$600,000—the

amount to be appropriated for the payment

of actual dividends never to exceed just the

half year of the balance of such earnings to

be used for making up the deficiency of capital.

Some thought it would be better to reduce the

capital at once, but after some discussion and

some amendments, the resolution—substantially

as that passed.

A correspondent of the London Star

ridicules the kind of writing about American

affairs which places so much in England. He

offers to supply correspondence of the right

kind, and says:—

Now, here is my notion of how to do

the thing:—

"I am not a quack. I have been in

quackery; I have met quack quack. I have

particular and much-maligned friend, Dr. Quack-

quack. I have been in quackery, and I have

many men and cities. I once met with five

inhabited Russians and three and four

inhabited Americans, and have been three and

four times in the United States, and have been

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Stanton to Father Mathew.

THE UNWINDING.

CORK, MONDAY EVENING.—The beautiful

city presented a holiday aspect to-day.

The streets were thronged with people, and

the air was filled with the sound of music.

The people were all in a holiday mood, and

the city was all in a holiday mood.

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25 captives, 25 light
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