other person to show that I, in the Conference, or any where else, said that I was in favor of the terms contained in the Report of the delegates. All I said at Ottawa in favor of the Report was, that it was creditable to so many men that they had agreed so well in drawing it up. Hon. members may say that this is not a Government question; but I am determined to make it one, so that if it be taken to the polls the people may have the matter fairly before them. Some may be disposed to say that the terms are not very favorable to this Colony; but they have confidence that the gentlemen at Ottawa will do what is fair. Now, I am of opinion that the people of this Island would not be satisfied to leave the matter in this way. To have hon. members acting like loose fish on such a question is dangerous. Had I been desirous to carry my resolution I would have put it in a different shape altogether. I do not wish them to vote against their declared principles. I believe the hon. member on my right (Hon. Mr. Whelan) and the late leader of the Government would vote to have the Report of the delegates confirmed by the Imperial Government. There are fewer old party ties to bind us now than formerly. The Land Question appears to be settled, as it is not referred to in His Excellency's speech this Session—the first time which it has been omitted for years. I would, perhaps, have assisted the Government had they declared their principles. As it is at present, I do not understand their policy.

Mr. BRECKEN—I had hoped, Mr. Chairman, that this question would have been met in the spirit of the third of the motives of politicians mentioned by the hon. member for Belfast—that of the general interests of the country—but, Sir, I now despair of that, seeing that the hon. the leader of the Opposition has expressed his determination to degrade this high theme to the level of a mere party question. Never since this Island had a Legislature, never since the sun of civilization shone upon it, has a matter of such momentous interest, wherein such great principles are involved, occupied the attention of its parliament. The hon. leader of the Opposition has talked much about trimming sails to catch the varying breeze of popular favor, but I can tell him that example is better than precept. No one should regard a question of such magnitude in the light of his own personal interests or those of his party. Generations yet unborn are to be affected by the decision of this matter, and it is truly to be regretted that the hon. member has not thought fit to follow the example adopted by the Legislatures of the other Colonies, where party spirit has been merged in the treatment of this subject. In Canada we find gentlemen who had long been bitter opponents, now agreeing, as we are told the lion and the lamb shall do. In Nova Scotia, the leader of the Government and of the Opposition in the Legislative Council, and in the Assembly the ex-Attorney General, view this subject only as regards the general interests of their country. Such example should not be without its effect on the hon. member. My own opinion is opposed to the contemplated Union, as I believe that we should not be as advantageously situated under it as we are at present. But, Sir, this is not the time to discuss the question, for how can hon. members form opinions on the matter until the information embodied in the correspondence shall be placed before them? I have not sought to know the course the Government may adopt on this question; but it is no imputation on their courage that they have not indicated their action in the address.—I think it would be more prudent to await the action of the other Colonies. I see by the debates in the Canadian Legislature that the Report of the Conference is regarded as a treaty. Perhaps that report may have been assented to by the hon. member himself. There may possibly be another Conference; if such should be the case, and the hon. member should assist at it, I hope he will occupy a more comfortable position than I fear he does at present. As one of the seven representatives of this Island, he occupied at the Quebec Conference a high position, and he had a high and solemn duty to perform, and he should have discharged it untrammelled by considerations of mere party. If he was opposed to the scheme, then was the time for him to have manifested his independence, and if he considered that the project would operate prejudicially to the interests of his country, he should have stated so. Sir, he should have recollected that it devolved upon him as a prominent public man of the Island, delegated to the mission on which he went, on account of his position, to have asserted and illustrated the reputation of his country for straightforward honest conduct. If our Island home be limited in area, if its population be sparse and its people poor in comparison to our neighbors, these circumstances rendered it more incumbent on those who represented us to show that we were disposed to act without deception, and not to subject the Colony to the imputation of a breach of faith with our neighbors. As to what has been said by the hon. member with reference to the appointment of the Solicitor General, it becomes not me, situated as I am with reference to that gentleman, to discuss the subject as fully and freely as I might under other circumstances; but I do say that the constituency of Georgetown, which he has for years represented, and from whom he seeks a renewed expression of confidence, is, although comparatively small, as intelligent as any in the Island. They have had ample opportunities of estimating his character for veracity, and when he openly avows his opinions, in seeking their suffrages, they are best qualified to know what amount of credence is to be accorded to him. The hon. leader of the Opposition finds that, the Land Question having been finally disposed of, no *locus standi* is left for him, and consequently he must lower the question of the proposed Union to the lowest platform of party. There is no fear that the Imperial Government will constrain us to the positive adoption of the Union; and if I supposed that the Government of the Island would force this measure, without the opinion of the people having been taken upon it, I would vote for their impeachment. This question involves our political existence, and the principles for which the oppressed nationalities of the world have been and are struggling. There is no necessity for haste; if the other Colonies, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, decline to enter into the compact there is an end of it: if they shall consent to it, and we be forced to cast in our lot with them, we shall at least have the satisfaction of knowing that we have done our duty to our country.

Hon. Mr. COLES.—If we are to wait for the action of the other Colonies, and to follow in their footsteps, we may as well tell them to send to the Island copies of their proceedings and that we will adopt them. I repeat that this is a question on which the Government should declare their policy. In Canada and the other Colonies it is true that parties formerly opposed to each other, have united on this matter, but it should be remembered, on the other hand, that there has been a combination of men who formerly took different sides in politics, in opposition to the scheme. In Canada M. Dorion is not found lying down beside his former colleague, Mr. Brown. When I say that this is a political question, I do not mean to assert that the same party ties which formerly existed must necessarily remain. I object to the Government expressing themselves as opposed to a question of such importance as this, and taking into their councils a gentleman who has expressed himself most warmly in favor of it.

Mr. BRECKEN —I did not say that I would consent to any course which Nova Scotia or New Brunswick might adopt. I stated that it would be advisable to wait until we had ascertained their views; and surely the hon. member must admit that if those Provinces decline to unite their destinies with those of Canada, there is not much probability that the latter will force Prince Edward Island into a union with her. I agree with the hon. member that new political associations have arisen in the other Colonies on this question. In Canada, Mr. Brown sits beside his old opponents, Messrs. Cartier and McGee, and a similar fusion of parties may take place here. Public men have and do change their views on particular questions, and it may be that the hon. member himself shall, at some future day, find himself the leader of a Union party; and, sir, such a position would imply no discredit to him, if additional information should dawn upon his mind.—(*Continued in Supplementary sheet.*)

SUMMARY OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MONDAY, March 6.

His Honor the Speaker in the Chair.

Mr. Haslam, Chairman of the Committee, submitted a Bill to continue the Act relating to the running at large of Swine. Ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

Hon. Leader of the Government submitted the Returns of the Road Correspondent for the past year. Referred to Special Committee on Public Accounts.

On motion of Mr. Conroy, Mr. Howlan was substituted for him on the Committee on Public Accounts.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Longworth the number of the Committee on the Fish Inspection Bill was increased from three to five. Messrs. Howlan and Green were added thereto.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Longworth, the Seduction Bill was read a second time. Committed, and agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Coles, in accordance with previous notice, asked for the Despatches, if any, sent to the Colonial Office in connection with the Militia Bill, and the Bill for the settlement of the Land Question, and also the Petitions against the allowance of the latter. The hon. member having accompanied his request with observations touching the policy of the Government on the above questions, was declared by the Speaker to be out of order, as the documents asked for must be laid on the table before any discussion relative to their contents could be entertained.

After some discussion on this point, the Hon Mr. Pope said the papers asked for would be submitted.

The Hon. Legislative Council announced, by message, that they had appointed the Hons. Messrs. Palmer, McDonald and Ramsay a Committee of good Correspondence.

Hon Mr. Hensley gave notice that on Thursday next he would ask for Copies of any instructions which might have been given the Delegates to the Conference held last autumn on the subject of a Union of the Provinces. House adjourned.

TUESDAY, March 7.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Longworth, the Bill entituled an act to continue the Seduction Act was read a third time and passed.

Hon. Mr. Pope submitted the Public Lands Office Accounts, also the Colonial Treasurer's Accounts for the past year; which documents were then referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Davies, a Supply was granted to Her Majesty.

House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, March 7.

Hon. Mr. Pope presented the Returns of the Road Commissioners for the present year.

Mr. Howat, from the Committee appointed last Session, to whom were referred certain Petitions relative to the Tavern License Law, submitted a Report. Received and read, and referred to a Committee of the whole House to-morrow.

On motion of Mr. Haslem, the Bill relating to the appointment of Hog Reeves, and to prevent the going at large of Swine, was read a second time. Mr. Green in the chair.

Mr. Haslem having explained the object of the Bill, remarked that some slight alterations were made to the present Act; one of which was to the effect that a majority of the electors of any School District, and not two-thirds of them as heretofore, shall have power to appoint two Hog Reeves annually; also that Hog Reeves, performing their duty in compliance with this Bill, shall be entitled to the sum of four shillings, instead of 2s. 6d., per head for all Swine seized and taken up by them under the provisions of this Bill.

After some brief remarks from the Hons. Messrs. Hensley, Coles, Longworth and Warburton, the Bill was agreed to.

Hon. Mr. Hensley, Chairman of the Committee of last Session appointed to report on the Spirituous Liquor License Law, presented a petition from divers inhabitants of P. E. Island relative to the subject of Liquor License. Petition received and read, and referred to the House when in Committee.

Mr. Howat submitted a report on the same subject.

Hon. Mr. Warburton, in compliance with previous notice, asked for Returns of Prince of Wales College, and also returns of the Grammar Schools at Charlottetown, Summerside and Georgetown, for the past year.

Hon. Mr. Pope replied that the documents in question were being prepared and would be submitted.

Mr. McLennan presented a petition from divers Merchants, and others, praying for a Charter for the purpose of establishing a Bank at Summerside. Said petition was received and read, and the following gentlemen appointed a Committee to bring in a Bill relative thereto, viz:—Messrs. McLennan, Hensley, Green, Longworth and Davies.

Hon. Mr. Hensley said that as he understood the question relative to which he had given notice, would be answered without any further motion, he would now ask for any instructions which might have been given the Delegates to the late Convention on the subject of Colonial Confederation.

Hon. Colonial Secretary replied, and said that the Delegates who attended the Convention, held at Charlottetown last Autumn, were appointed in pursuance of the Resolution of this House passed last Session, and that those gentlemen were the same, with the addition of two to their number, who attended the Quebec Conference. He then submitted and read a copy of a letter which had been forwarded to each of the Delegates, notifying them of their appointment. He (the Col. Sec'y.) was not aware that any other instructions were given to the Delegates.

Hon. Mr. Longworth moved that the House go into Committee to take into consideration the Savings' Bank Law, with the view of making some slight alterations to the Act of last Session. Mr. Yeo in the chair.

Hon. Mr. Longworth then submitted a Resolution to the effect that it is expedient to amend the Law relating to the Savings Bank, with the view of enabling depositors to receive interest for monies deposited—said interest to commence from the first day of each month subsequent to such deposit, and not from the first day of each quarter as now provided by the Act. Resolution read and agreed to, and the following gentlemen appointed a Committee to bring in a Bill in accordance therewith, viz: Hon. Messrs. Longworth, Pope and Hensley.

Hon. Mr. Longworth, Chairman of said Committee, then presented a Bill to alter the Law relating to the Savings Bank, which Bill was received and read, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

AFTERNOON.

Hon. Mr. Pope submitted the Warrant Book for the past year. Referred to Committee on Public Accounts.

Hon Leader of the Government submitted certain Despatches and Correspondence relating to the Land Settlement Bill of last Session and the Militia Law of this Island; also Correspondence relating to certain Petitions of Tenants of this Island, praying the disallowance by Her Majesty of the above Bill, for the settlement of differences between Landlord and Tenant. All of which documents were ordered to be laid on the table.

Hon. Col. Secretary presented the Writ of Election with the Sheriff's return of the Hon. T. Heath Haviland as Member for Georgetown; after which he was introduced to the Speaker, and having taken the usual oaths, resumed his seat, vacated by his acceptance of the office of Solicitor General.

On motion of the Hon. Col. Secretary, the House went into Committee to take into consideration the repeal of the Oyster Bill of last Session, with the view of making other provisions in lieu thereof. Mr. Yeo in the chair.

Hon. Col. Secretary then submitted a Resolution to the effect that said Bill be repealed in order that more extensive facilities be given to parties disposed to cultivate Oyster beds, and encourage the growth and production of Oysters. Resolution read and agreed to, and the following gentlemen appointed a Committee to bring in a Bill in accordance therewith, viz: Hon. Colonial Secretary, and Messrs. Green and Howlan.

House adjourned.

THURSDAY, March 9.

Hon. Col. Secretary submitted a Bill to repeal the Act regulating the Oyster Fishery of this Island, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof. He then explained the nature of the amendments which he desired to have enacted; the object of the amended Bill would be to prevent the taking of Oysters during the spawning season, and to give persons the right to plant Oysters in certain localities. After which it was ordered that the Bill be read a second time to-morrow.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Longworth, the Bill to amend the law relating to the Savings Bank of this Island, was read a second time. Committed and reported agreed to. House adjourned.

AFTERNOON.

On motion of Mr. Howat, the House went into Committee to take into consideration the report submitted by the Special Committee, appointed last session, relative to the Liquor License Law. Mr. Green in the Chair.

Mr. Howat then addressed the Committee, and explained the principal alterations proposed to be made in the present Act regulating licensed taverns located within the boundaries of School districts on this Island. He proceeded to show that the Law, as now in force, empowered a majority of the householders resident in the School District within which a Tavern was situated, to grant a certificate to obtain license. The Report, he said, recommended the amendment of this clause in the Act, by rendering it necessary for persons applying for license to obtain the consent of two-thirds and not the majority of the inhabitants of any School District, within the bounds of which a Tavern might be situated; and that the licenses of Tavern keepers should not be renewed without procuring in like maner the consent of two thirds of said inhabitants. The hon. gentleman also said that it was considered advisable to amend the Law regulating Store licences for the sale of Spirituous Liquors, by refusing to grant licenses for the sale of less quantities than one quart, instead of one pint, as allowed by the Law as at presnte in force.

The Hons. Messrs. Hensley, Davies, Longworth, and Messrs. Howlan, Conroy, Brecken, Haslam and Sinclair supported the prayer of the petitioners on this subject, and contended that the amendments contemplated by the Report of the Committee would tend to lessen the evils complained of.

Hons. Solicitor General, Warburton, Coles and the Colonial Secretary spoke in opposition to the Report, on the grounds that the restrictions sought to be put on Tavern-keepers would not reduce the number of unlicensed Taverns, and might, in many instances, deprive the travelling public of the necessary accommodations to be had at legally established Taverns, as no man would be disposed to invest his means in a business which might be closed in twelve months.

After considerable discussion, relative to the necessity of adopting the most stringent measures for the suppression of the evils of intemperance, Mr. Howat moved that the Report be agreed to.

Hon. Solicitor General moved an amendment that the Speaker take the Chair, which amendment was negatived on the following division: Yeas, 11; Nays, 14.

The Report was accordingly agreed to, and the following gentlemen appointed a Committee to bring in a Bill in conformity thereto, viz: Messrs. Howat, Hensley and Davies. House adjourned.

FRIDAY, March 10.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Longworth, the Bill to amend the Savings' Bank Act was read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Haslam, the Bill to authorize the appointment of Hog Reeves, and to prevent the going at large of Swine, was also read a third time and passed.

On motion of the Hon. Mr. Davies, the Hon. Solicitor General and the Hon. Mr. Hensley were added to the Committee appointed to bring in a Bill relative to Merchant Seamen.

Hon. Col. Secretary moved that the Bill relating to the Oyster fisheries in this Island be read a second time.

Hon. Mr. Coles moved an amendment that said Bill be read this day three months. He (Hon. Mr. Coles) said he could not see the necessity for legislation on this subject; he was of opinion that it might be truly said the time had not arrived for the enactment of laws to carry out the speculative theories of the Col. Secretary. The Bill was calculated to create trouble and litigation, and he would oppose it.

Hon. Mr. Laird and Mr. Howat supported the amendment proposed by the Hon. Mr. Coles, believing, as they did, that it would be inexpedient to legislate on this matter, on the grounds that, under the provisions of this Bill, privileges would be granted to parties obtaining license for the prosecution of this new branch of trade, which would, in their opinion, very materially interfere with private rights, and in many cases would operate against the farming interests of the country, by encroaching on the rights of farmers to procure mussel mud for manuring purposes. They would, therefore, oppose the Bill going into Committee.

Hon. Sol. General said Oyster fishing was becoming a very important article of commerce, and should be fostered. He alluded to the success which followed the artificial cultivation of the Salmon fishery in Australia, and contended that the principles of the Bill should be recognized. He would, therefore, support the motion for going into Committee.

Mr. Howlan said this was an important Bill, and every means should be employed to encourage this branch of industry, which, even now, formed a considerable item in the exports of the Colony.

Hon. Mr. Hensley supported the Oyster Bill of last Session, and saw no reason to change his views on the subject. The privileges which would be granted by the Bill, he contended, would not in any way interfere with private rights.

Mr. Brecken said that the object of the hon. member for Tryon, (Mr. Howat,) being the protection of Mussel beds, it would be well to remark that Oysters would not exist in Mussel beds, and would, therefore, never be planted where such beds for manuring purposes were to be found, consequently the interests of farmers would not be interfered with in the manner anticipated by that hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Davies was of opinion that the time had arrived for taking action on this subject. The price of Oysters advanced last Summer from 7s 6d to 15s per barrel. In France, he said, millions of bushels of Oysters were produced by artificial cultivation; the Government of that country took the matter up, and it now became a profitable speculation. True, the cultivation of the soil is of more importance than Oyster fisheries, and he would never support any measure that would interfere with the privileges of farmers to collect sea manure; but unless protection be given to persons disposed to embark in this branch of trade, no beds would be planted for the propogation of Oysters; already, Oysters exported were worth per barrel $2½, and so great was the demand for them that it was not unusual to see in Saloons and Hotels in the Provinces, P. E. Island Oysters advertised, when frequently none could be had in such places.

Hon. Mr. Longworth would not for one moment support this Bill if he considered that it would restrict farming operations, or prevent the facilities afforded to farmers in procuring mussel mud or sea manure of any description. This, however, he did not apprehend, as care would be taken to prevent any encroachments on the rights of farmers. Formerly, he said, Oysters were very plentiful in different localities on this Island, and formed a staple article of food for its inhabitants. At Wheatley River and Rustico, there were at one time immense bodies of Oysters, and the banks of the river in those places still bore testimony to that fact. Encouragement should be given to persons wishing to prosecute this branch of trade, which, ere long, might form a very important article of exportation. The Bill, he said, was based on just and sound principles, and he would therefore support it.

Hon. Col. Secretary said that there were no Mussel beds in those localities where it was intended to plant Oysters. Those Mussel beds, he said, were great enemies to the growth of Oysters; the Bill need not, therefore, cause any alarm on that ground.

The question was then put on the amendment, which was negatived on the following division:

Yeas—Hons. Messrs. Coles, Laird, Warburton, Thornton, Messrs. Howat, Sinclair, and Walker—7.

Nays—Hons. Col. Secretary, Sol. General, Kaye, Davies, Kelly, Longworth, Hensley, Pope, Messrs. Montgomery, Ramsay, Haslam, Brecken, Duncan, McLennan, Sutherland, Green, Howlan, Conroy—18.

The Bill was accordingly committed. Mr. McLennan in the Chair.

The object of this Bill is to prevent the fishing or catching of Oysters, in any of the Bays or Rivers of this Island, between the 1st day of June and the 1st day of September in each year, and to grant licenses for prosecuting Oyster fisheries, giving the exclusive right to parties, who may engage in this branch of industry, to fish Oysters, and to form new beds for the purpose of propagating Oysters in the following localities, namely: Richmond Bay and Dunk River in Prince County, and Hillsborough River in Queen's County. The boundaries to which such licenses shall extend are also defined, and a clause is added to the effect that nothing in this Bill shall prejudice the right of any person to take from any River within this Island, any mud or mussel for manure, or to prevent the dredging or improving of any River for navigable purposes.

After some discussion in Committee, the Bill was agreed to with some amendments, and then reported back to the House.

On motion being made that the Bill be now agreed to,

Hon. Mr. Coles moved, in amendment, to leave out the word "now," and, at the end of the question, insert this day three months.

The House then divided on the motion of amendment, as follows:

Yeas—Hons. Messrs. Coles and Laird, and Messrs. Howat, Sinclair and Walker—5.

Nays—Hons. Col. Secretary, Longworth, Davies, Pope, Sol. General, Kaye, Kelly, Beaton, Hensley, Messrs. Haslam, Ramsay, Montgomery, McLennan, Brecken, Green, Howlan—16.

The Bill, as amended, was then agreed to. House adjourned.

SATURDAY, March 11.

Hon. Mr. Pope submitted to the House the Annual Return of Prince of Wales College and the Grammar Schools of this Island.

Hon. Mr. Coles asked when would the Public Accounts be brought down, as it would be necessary to refer to them when in debate on the Union question.

Hon Mr. Pope said the documents asked for were in course of preparation, and would be submitted to the House at an early day.

Hon. Mr. Heasley introduced a Bill to repeal the Acts now in force establishing and regulating the rate of interest, and to make some provisions on the same subject. The hon. member then stated that this Bill was simply a transcript of the Usury law repeal Bill of last Session, which, he regretted, had been rejected by the Legislative Council.

It was then moved that the Bill be received and read, and ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

Mr. McLennan, Chairman of the special Committee appointed to bring in a Bill to establish a Bank at Summerside, submitted a Bill which was received and read.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee on Private Bills.

Hon. Leader of the Government gave notice that he would, on Thursday next, move that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the whole, to take into consideration the various Despatches and Correspondence transmitted, by message, to the House this Session.

Hon. Solicitor General, agreeable to notice, introduced a Bill to amend the Laws relating to the conveyance of property; the object of which, he said, was to simplify the mode of conveying property, and to make our Laws harmonise more than they now do with those of Great Britain. The Bill was then received and read. Ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

Hon. Mr. Pope submitted the Returns of the Bank of P. E. Island up to the 7th day of March, 1865. Ordered to be laid on the table.

Hon. Mr. Pope also submitted the Returns of certain Road Commissioners, not included among those previously produced.

Ordered that said Returns be referred to the Committee on Public Accounts.

House adjourned.

A. McNEILL, Reporter.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, March 13, 1865.

CONFEDERATION IN CANADA.

THE Toronto *Globe* of the 24th ult., contains the following paragraph showing, how large a majority supported Confederation in the Upper House of the Canadian Legislature:—

"The Legislative Council last night passed the Confederation scheme by a vote of forty-five to fifteen, or exactly three to one. The majority, of course, includes a large majority from each section of the Province. Those who predicted a strong opposition to Confederation in the Upper House find themselves mistaken."

In the course of the debate on Confederation in the Legislative Assembly of Canada, the Hon Mr. Dorion made the following remarks in reference to this Island:—

"Prince Edward Island also was being most handsomely provided for. The hon. gentleman here quoted at considerable length from the Hon. Mr. Whelan's paper, the Charlottetown *Examiner*, in which that hon. delegate recounted all the advantages of the scheme from a local point of view, and by which it appeared that this Island was to get a sum exceeding by £48,000 the actual local outlay. So here we had Mr. Tilley and Mr. Whelan actually chuckling over the excellent bargains they had made for their respective Provinces. The little Island of Prince Edward had actually to get £68,000 over and above its necessities. Why, the Hon. Finance Minister could, in his distress, go to Prince Edward Island and borrow its surplus. (Laughter and Cheers.)

Our excellent Canadian friend slightly errs in his statement. Mr. Whelan never stated that this Island would get £48,000, or any other sum for this Island, "over and above its necessities." We believe the Island would receive, under Confederation, from the General Government, a less amount than its present revenue, which scarcely meets its "necessities," but we believe the loss would be more than made up to us by the increased facilities given to commercial intercourse.

The following important telegram from the Hon. Mr. McGee, Minister of Agriculture for Canada, was received by Mr. Whelan at a late hour on Monday night last, when it was, unfortunately, too late for our publication of that date. We are rejoiced to find that Canada is not disposed to let the important question of Confederation pass out of mind, merely because New Brunswick seems disposed to ignore it. The proposed Mission from Canada to England will have an important, and, we trust, *salutary influence over* ALL *the Colonies*:—

"QUEBEC, March 6.

"TO HON. E. WHELAN—

"Attorney-General McDonald has just announced that the policy of this Government, after the New Brunswick elections, is to press the question of Confederation to a decision in Canada—to ask for a prorogation, and to send a mission to England, to consult the Imperial Government on the whole subject of colonial relations—political and military.

"T. D. McGEE."

The following telegrams were received by the Colonial Secretary from Canada on Saturday last:—

From the Clerk of the Executive Council of Canada to the Hon. W. H. Pope:—

"QUEBEC, March 11.

"The Confederation Address to the Queen passed the Assembly this morning at four o'clock—ninety to thirty-three.

W. H. LEE, C. E. C."

From the Hon. J. A. McDonald, Attorney General, Canada West, to Hon. W. H. Pope, Colonial Secretary.

QUEBEC, March 11, 1865.

"Union carried in the Assembly!—Yeas, ninety-one—Nays, thirty-three.

"JOHN A. McDONALD."

NEWFOUNDLAND.

THE papers received from the above Colony by the late Mails are filled with the reports of debates in the House of Assembly on the question of Colonial Confederation, the matter having been brought to the notice of the House in the Speech of the Lieutenant Governor on the opening of the Session. The arguments for, and against, are, without any substantial difference, the same as those that have been urged here on both sides of the question at the several public meetings which have been held. Messrs. Carter and Shea, the Delegates from Newfoundland, have very ably advocated the measure in the House of Assembly, and several other members in the House have given them the most effective support. The Government of Newfoundland seems to treat Confederation, as the Government of this Island does, in a spirit that seems to say—"Confederation may be accepted if the continental Colonies are favorable to it; or it may be rejected, if it can be safely and conveniently rejected." It is, in fact, an open question; and in that light the opponents of Confederation have as much reason to fear the action of the Government as they would have if they had boldly committed themselves at once to an acceptance of the Report of the Quebec Convention.

The following is the Resolution which the Government of Newfoundland proposed to submit to the House of Assembly on the question referred to:—

"*Resolved*,—That having had under their most serious and deliberate consideration the proposal for the formation of a Federal Union of the British North American Provinces, upon the terms contained in the Report of the Convention of Delegates held at Quebec on the 10th of October last,—the Despatch of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated December 3, 1864—the observations of His Excellency the Governor in relation to this subject in his opening Speech of the present session, and the report of the Newfoundland Delegates,—this Committee are of opinion, that having regard to the comparative novelty and very great importance of this project, it is desirable that before a vote of the Legislature is taken upon it, it should be submitted to the consideration of the people at large—particularly as the action of the other Provinces does not appear to require that it should be hastily disposed of, and as (the present being the last session of this Assembly) no unreasonable delay can be occasioned by this course; and they therefore recommend that a final determination upon this important subject be deferred to the next meeting of this Legislature."

THE LEGISLATURE.

WE have nothing of special interest to report connected with the proceedings of the Legislature since our last issue. The House of Assembly, its admirers will be happy to learn, has not been over-worked. It has passed a Bill relating to hogs and the duties of hog-reeves—it has amended the Oyster Bill of last Session—it has had some talk about altering the Licence Law, and amending the Savings' Bank Bill; but we don't think the interests of the country will be very much advanced by this kind of legislation. The Debate on the question of Confederation of the Colonies, though set down for Friday last, has not yet commenced, and will probably be deferred until after the session of the Supreme Court at Georgetown, which will meet to-morrow, and at which two or three members of the House are required to be present.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

OUR advices received by the regular Mail from this Province during the past week, confirm, to some extent, the telegraphic reports as to the results of the elections there. We have no longer any reason to doubt that the Counties of Westmorland, York and St. John have returned candidates opposed to the contemplated Confederation of the Provinces. The result in Westmorland causes no surprise, as, previously to the election, it was regarded as adverse to the cause. With respect to St. John and York Counties, the case was different. Those two Counties were expected to return Confederation Candidates; and in St. John, no one seemed to doubt that Mr. Tilley and Mr. Gray would be both returned. The Mercantile interest was, however, too strong for them; that interest is, unfortunately arrayed against Confederation, to a large extent, in all the provinces; and no one doubts that its opposition springs almost exclusively from mercenary motives. There is not, perhaps, in the Lower Provinces a city so much under the controul of the mercantile body as St. John; and it is through the influence of that body that Messrs. Tilley and Gray have lost their elections, to make room for men who can bear no comparison with them for ability and experience. It is, however, highly probable that another section of the Province will repair the damage done to the provincial character by returning Mr. Tilley; and we fervently hope that a constituency will also be found to accord a like measure of justice to his able coadjutor, Mr. Gray. Apart from Confederation, the Province would sustain a very serious loss if those gentlemen were to be long excluded from the Legislature. Their equals are not to be found in the ranks of all the public men of New Brunswick; and although St. John has been stupid and ungrateful enough to reject them, that will not lessen their character in the estimation of the public. Other constituencies may be glad to secure their services, as has been often the case with the very ablest statesmen in England—the late Lord Macaulay for example—who, at different times, lost their elections in certain places through the local prejudices and self interests of certain classes of electors, and who were triumphantly returned for other places where no such influences prevailed.

The anti-Federalists are a little too fast in glorifying themselves so immensely as they do over the two or three elections which have resulted adversely for the Confederation cause. Many constituencies have yet to be heard from; and there is no reason whatever to suppose, with the information now before us, that the new House in New Brunswick will present a majority opposed to that cause. But let the decision of New Brunswick be what it may at the present elections, events are so rapidly thickening around all the Colonies as to make their union, at no very distant day, absolutely necessary, in commercial, political and military points of view.

OUR readers will, we trust, regard as an apology for the absence of much editorial matter from our columns to-day, the very large proportion of our journal given up to the proceedings of both Houses of the Legislature. Most of our great lawgivers and statesmen have only one season in the year in which they can communicate their brilliant thoughts to the public on state affairs; and while we have every season and every week in the year for performing our humble office as adviser to our fellow-colonists, we feel that our great statesmen should have a preferential claim to our columns during the sitting of the Legislature, although many of our readers have often said, and will say again, with a sneer at the peculiar literature of the House of Assembly and Legislative Council, that in devoting so many columns to it we "abuse," not the king's, but "the people's press most d——bly."

As one of the taxes we have to pay for the luxury of seeing our columns occupied with Parliamentary "talk," we are obliged to issue a supplementary sheet, in which will be found some local notices and parliamentary debate, together with the advertisements unavoidably excluded from our regular No.

THE MAILS.

MAILS were received here from the other Provinces and the United States about 12 o'clock on Saturday night. The latest Provincial dates do not reach further down than the 9th instant, and the papers contain no news of any importance further than what we had received by telegraph. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick journals are largely occupied with discussions on the result of the elections in the latter Province. The anti-Confederate party claim a majority in the new House,—but the Confederates contend that the parties will be nearly equalized, as some members, presumed to be opposed to Confederation, are not so, but will vote for it when the question will come before the Legislature. It is impossible, however, to determine how Confederation will be disposed of in New Brunswick until the Legislature of that Province shall meet.

CATHOLIC Y. M. L. INSTITUE. — The Very Rev. Dr. McDonald delivered a highly interesting and instructive Lecture at this Institute, on Wednesday evening last, on "Progress." It touched on a great variety of topics in religion, science, literature and general politics, and in each the learned lecturer was accurate in his facts and happy in his illustrations. The whole time usually devoted to the weekly meeting of the Institute having been occupied by the lecturer, it was found necessary to forego the usual discussion.

Richard Reddin, Esqr., will lecture next Wednesday evening: Subject—"Oliver Goldsmith."

☞ We trust our readers will not forget to attend the Concert which is advertised to be given in St. Andrew's Hall, on the evening of St. Patrick's Day.

FIRST TRIPS OF THE SEASON.—Our readers will observe by advertisement in another column that the Boston & Colonial line of Steamships will recommence their weekly trips between Boston, Halifax and this Port next month. We learn that the "Commerce" has been thoroughly refitted and greatly improved in many respects; and that the "Grey Hound" is a fine, fast Iron boat of some 900 tons burthen, fitted with four water-tight compartments. She has accommo-

LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE *CANADA* AT HALIFAX.

HALIFAX, 3rd March.

Canada, Hockley, left Liverpool at noon, 18th, Queenstown, 19th, and arrived at Halifax at 8.30 a. m., 3rd March.

City of Limerick, for New York, left Liverpool about the same time as Canada.

Hibernian reached Liverpool on the afternoon of the 16th.

In the absence of later news from America than the 7th instant, per Hibernian, papers contain speculations on recent peace Conference.

Globe, 15th, is fully convinced that peace negotiations were utter failure, and that war enters upon new term, both parties determined to put everything to arbitrament of sword; this Conference having failed, peace advocates on both sides will now be silenced.

Star, 17th, believes Conference was entered upon in good faith by both parties, meeting entirely for discussion and interchange of views; a kind of preliminary meeting to ascertain whether any common basis could be discovered on which negotiations might be opened in a more formal manner. In its very nature it was a Conference of which details could not immediately be made public, and because of this apparent want of result, journals of North were probably too apt to take a somewhat decided view of failure.

Index observes that mere fact of negotiations having been found possible, demonstrates with what rapid strides the American people have been advancing towards idea of peace. It rejoices that South has prized independence above advantages of passing hour.

Times, 14th, thinks thus far not least sign of any real movement in direction of peace. Americans are slaves of an idea, their dream of a powerful Confederation amounts almost to a monomania. So long as that idol stands on its pedestal, war must rage on, and Times sees no symptom of its early overthrow.

Army and Navy Gazette thinks meeting only marks new phase in conflict, makes boundary line between belligerents broader and deeper, and renders peace, it fears, impossible till one party or the other have won the fight.

Parliamentary proceedings continued unimportant. In the House of Commons, on 17th, Mr. Layard, in response to Mr. Watkin, bore testimony to the great tact, discretion and ability with which Lord Lyons discharged his duties at Washington. In no one of many thousand cases had he failed to obtain highest approval of Government, and his duties had been so laborious that in one year his despatches filled sixty folio volumes Under such circumstances it was not surprising his health had broken down, and for the present Government forebore to press him to decide whether he would return or not. Meantime Mr. Burnley Home was most satisfactorily discharging duties of Embassy.

Mr. Watkin complained that Government was allowing the Reciprocity Treaty to be set aside without the slightest attempt to avert it by negotiations. He also complained that intercepted letter had been published without explanation, stating that Lincoln had himself signed orders for breaking the blockade at Mobile, while American Ambassador was constantly complaining of British subjects doing so. He moved for papers.

Mr. Layard said there was no papers to produce.

The Index, Confederate organ, says 715 American ships have been transferred to British registry since commencement of war.

Army and Navy Gazette says army estimation has been framed so as to reduce strength of army by about 3,000 men.

[From Wilmer and Smith's Times, Feb. 18.]

The death of Cardinal Wiseman has not taken the public by surprise. His health for a period was so hopelessly bad that his friends have long feared the worst, and that has now occurred For several years he labored under the distressing malady known as *diabetes*, a disease hitherto deemed incurable; but the Cardinal, nevertheless, bravely struggled against it, and believed that it had yielded to medical treatment, when it was announced that the inroads made on his constitution had been so serious that he could only find relief in the grave. The late Cardinal Wiseman was one of the most remarkable men of the 19th century. His scholastic and scientific attainments were extraordinary.

The Deputy-director of Fortifications, Lieut. Col. Jervois, has presented a long and elaborate report to the Secretary-at-War on the Defence, a subject which has of late excited considerable attention at home, as well as in the Colonies He advocates the fortification of the two principal cities in the Lower Province—Quebec and Montreal; and also Kingston, Toronto and Hamilton, in the Upper Province. He maintains that these points, supported by the Militia and Volunteers, and a proper number of gunboats on the Lakes, could hold the frontier during the winter, until assistance was procurable from England. He estimates the cost of this suggestion at something more than a million and a quarter sterling. At present the Militia of Canada only represents 27,000 men; but this number in an emergency might be swelled with the Volunteers to nearly half a million. He suggests that a staff of regular officers should be appointed to bring this source of strength into play, by quartering Imperial regiments amongst it. As the good feeling between Great Britain and the United States, which has been temporally estranged, returns, this defence question will lose much of the interest which at present attaches to it. Even now there are symptoms of a good understanding returning. The fair and impartial conduct of the Canadian Government and people in the matter of the raiders has induced President Lincoln to rescind the system of passports relative to Canada, which was adopted in the heat of excitement arising out of the violation of American territory, and when the war is over, the probability is that affairs will sink down again to their old pacific level.

The proposal in the United States to abrogate the Reciprocity Treaty with Canada is regarded in this country by some of the strongest well-wishers of Mr. Lincoln and his cabinet as a retrograde and ill-advised step. This revocation has been declared to imperil the peace of two nations, the morality of two frontier populations, and the fortunes of large classes, commercial and agricultural, in the United States. The working of this Treaty during the last ten years has been eminently satisfactory to all concerned.

The Gazette notifies that the Prince of Wales will hold levees on behalf of her Majesty, on March 8th and 22nd.

CATHOLIC YOUNG MEN'S LITERARY INSTITUTE.

On next Wednesday evening, Richard Reddin Esqr., will lecture on "Oliver Goldsmith."

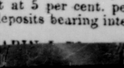
W. W. SULLIVAN, Sec'y.

March 13th.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Boston and Colonial

STEAMSHIP LINE.



First Trips of the Season!!

THE Steamers COMMERCE, F. M. SNOW, Master,