THURSDAY, April 4.

A number of private petitions were disposed of. When the petition of divers inhabitants of the western portion of this Island praying the House to grant a sum sufficient for the extension of Steam communication betwehn this colony and the province af New Brunswick, was taken up.

Mr. CONROY said he had the honor of presenting that patition. The benefits to be gained by such communication could not be estimated. Cascumpec had hitherto in a great measure been isolated from the rest of the world. He thought Steam communication to that Port, would be the means of increasing the revenue, as much as would make up for a liberal grant. He moved that the petition be referred to supply.

Hons. Messrs. Yeo and Perry also supported the prayer of the petition. Mr. M'Neill would oppose the petition going to supply, because Prince County had already a sufficient share of monies spent for steam communication, and because the harbor was a bad one. Mr. Conroy denied that the harbor was bad. Two or three other hon. members having expressed themselves on the subject, the House divided on Mr. Conroy's motion that it be referred to supply.

Yeas—Messrs. Conroy, Ramsay, J. Yeo, Beer, Holm, Sinclair, Davies, Sutherland, Doyle; Hons. Messrs. Yeo, Pope, Gray, Longworth, Perry, Thornton, Coles, Whelan, Wightman, Heusley, Kelly—20.

Nays—Messrs. M'Neill, Howat, Montgomery, Cooper; Hon. Mr. Laird—5.

Hon. Mr. PERRY from the Committee on petitions relating to Schools and Education, presented the report of the said Committee which was read, and ordered to be committed to a Committee of the whole House to-morrow.

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

DEAR SIR—Many of the people are alarmed at the opinions you have published with regard to the decision of the Land Commission. It appears to me that you have not taken the proper view of the duties required of the Commissioners. Their instructions from Her Majesty the Queen are in the following words, few in number, but very comprehensive—which I have marked to be printed in small capitals—"TO ENQUIRE INTO THE DIFFERENCES NOW PREVAILING IN OUR SAID ISLAND RELATIVE TO THE RIGHTS OF LANDOWNERS AND TENANTS, AND FOR ADJUSTING THE SAME UPON FAIR AND EQUITABLE PRINCIPLES." These are all the instructions to the Commissioners. There is no mention made of Quit Rents, Fishery Reserves, or Escheat. Each of these conditions were intended to serve a special purpose. The Quit Rents were intended for revenue. The Fishery Reserves round the shores were intended for British subjects, to keep up a friendly communication with British shipping when the interior was settled with foreigners, and the Escheat was intended to take place if the foreigners were not settled; therefore the Commissioners can only interfere with them as far as they relate to the rights of landowners and tenants. An outline of the differences in relation to these rights may be treated separately.

Whoever knows anything of the grants must know that the lands are forfeited *according to law* for non-settlement with foreigners; and the only claim the landholders can have to the land must be founded in equity upon some benefit they had rendered the settlers by enabling them to immigrate and settle themselves; that is, to pay their passage, to make roads, provide them with implements of husbandry, stock, seed, provisions or a house to go into; or even to watch over and encourage them how to provide for and settle themselves. All or any of such benefits would have their value, and give the landholder a claim in equity upon the land until he was paid; and the rent should bear some proportion to the value of the benefit conferred on the settlers.

Rights of the Landholders—They represented to Ministers that the settlement of the land with foreigners was impracticable; *but they had introduced and settled a number of other persons*, who could not otherwise have emigrated, to obtain a settlement for themselves,—that they were poor ignorant persons, who required a landowner or agent to look over them; and Ministers believing from such representations that the benefits conferred on the settlers were both extensive and valuable, declared that on such grounds it would be unjust to escheat the lands.

Rights of the Tenants—It was promised in the grants that unless foreigners were settled, the Island would become Crown land, consequently it was a deception to allow defaulters to hold over for the purpose of imposing rents upon British subjects,—that the few landholders who introduced emigrants for settlement charged too high a rent for any accommodation they had afforded the settlers, and set an example to speculators that for trifling sums they might become landowners and impose similar rents; and impostors who had *no title whatever* but impudence could set themselves up as landowners, and obtain rents in the same manner,—that to permit delinquents to hold over forfeited lands necessitated emigrants to become tenants to such delinquents; and then the law afforded no redress for this system of imposition. These matters being brought to the notice of Ministers, they declared it could only be settled by an equitable adjustment; and the duty of the Commissioners is to enquire into such matters, and settle them upon fair and equitable principles.

But it is not such an easy matter to defend the inhabitants from the imputation of ignorance when the best informed of our electors gave up the Land Question to the proprietors, upon condition that they would change the constitution of our Government; and the religious part of the community could be made to believe that unless they had a proprietary Government to rule over them their children would be deprived of their bible. But the proprietors know the Land Question *must* be settled, and their object was to have the settlement in their own hands to turn it to their own advantage. Whatever benefit the people may receive from the Land Commission, they need not thank their Government. But this subject will require another letter.

Sailor's Hope, July 19, 1861. WM. COOPER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—Being a member of the Volunteer Company at Cascumpec, I trust you will permit me to reply to a communication which appeared in the *Examiner* of the 15th inst, signed "A hater of Brutality."

The writer states that the order prohibiting the use of rifles, except on public occasions, has never been observed in Cascumpec; "as," says he, "some half-blind idiots from a low bigot's corner called the Dock, have been firing off rifles on all occasions and at all hours, to the no small annoyance of the intelligent and sober part of the community."

This paragraph speaks for itself, and is characteristic of the man who penned it. Its *merits* are, falsehood, scurrility, and misrepresentation.

The order prohibiting the indiscriminate use of rifles has been strictly observed; because the men are forbidden to use any ammunition except the proper rifle cartridges furnished by Government, and these are not entrusted to them, but delivered in small quantities to non-commissioned officers in charge of squads, and they are permitted to practice only at the time and place appointed by the officer in command, every precaution being taken to prevent accidents.

The remarks about half-blind idiots are scarcely worthy of notice. They, together with the other vulgar expressions used in the letter, are an indelible index to the disposition, and a label of the ill-breeding of the man who would palm himself off as an M. D., the man who blowing his own trumpet repeats his own name in public print as being in charge of a patient, when in point of fact the invalid referred to is no other than his own wife.

But methinks the doctor must have been looking in a mirror when he discovered that some of the Volunteers were half-blind idiots, for, in point of fact, the only half-blind individual who applied for membership in the corps was peremptorily balloted out; that individual was the person who styles himself "a Hater of Brutality"—hence the letter of spleen.

It is not true that this person met some topers armed with the public rifles, for those entrusted with them are all temperate men, as he very well knows. It is not true that he was told by Hugh Forsyth that he got and kept his rifle to mind his sheep. It is not true that any rifleman followed a dog nearly two miles, and then shot him in a public and crowded place—(but the owner of the dog referred to tied him up and had him shot.) It is not true that the dog was shot alongside the house of a person confined, &c.

I make these statements knowing them to be true, and if necessary am prepared on investigation to prove them. It will, therefore, I think be quite plain, that "A hater of Brutality" is a lover of misrepresentation, and that his letter was written in a spirit of opposition to the Volunteer movement, and disappointment at being refused admission into the Company.

Cascumpec, July 17, 1861. A VOLUNTEER.

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

MR. EDITOR—By the *Royal Gazette* of May 14, last past, the public were made acquainted with the Decisions of Her Majesty's Commissioners on points relating to the International Exhibition to be holden in London in the coming year. By this document it is known that "Her Majesty's Commissioners will be prepared to receive all articles which may be sent to them, on or after Wednesday, the 12th of February, and will continue to receive goods, until Monday, the 31st of March, 1862, inclusive."

We know that the Commissioners will be ready to receive, but we do not know whether Prince Edward Island will wake up in time to deliver—whether the present hybernating Government will get their sleep over before March 31, 1862. Already two whole months have been allowed to slip away without any known action having been taken, and when it is taken into account that unless the goods from P. E. Island are shipped this autumn, P. E. I. will be unrepresented and unknown to Exhibitional fame—we may be pardoned for invoking attention. The Decisions further inform us that "Her Majesty's Commissioners will communicate with Foreign and Colonial exhibitors *only* through the Commission, which the Government of each foreign country or colony may appoint for that purpose, and no article will be admitted from any foreign country or colony without the sanction of such Commission." When it is taken into consideration that the Atlantic rolls between P. E. I. and the office of the Royal Commissioners, it may, perhaps, be as well, if we may do so without offence, to ask on whom has fallen the choice of Lieut. Governor Dundas? We don't wish to pry into the secrets of Government House, but we should like to know, *when quite convenient*, who is appointed, for we think the people want to know, so that they may do *their part* creditably to their Island home, and *be in time*. Mr. Sandford, the Secretary to the International Exhibition, last April sent instructions to Lieut. Governor Dundas and said, "in the first place it would facilitate the arrangements here (England) if the appointment of the Commission or central authority referred to in the "Decisions" were to take place at *as early a period as practicable*. Your Excellency will have remarked that no article will be admitted from the Colonies without the sanction of such Commission or central authority, and it is important that Her Majesty's Commissioners *should know with whom they can officially* correspond. Upon this point I am instructed further to observe, that it is highly desirable in the interests of the colonies, that whoever may be nominated as agent in this country should be a man of business, well acquainted with the resources of the colony he represents."

What action has been taken in this direction? Why don't we hear his name; perhaps the Government mean to give some gentleman, with a good presence, a pleasure trip as Commissioner to the Exhibition, instructed to report the apathy and deficient capabilities of the Island; if so it will be time enough when the House meets again to inform the country. No action can, however, be taken by the Prince Edward Island Exhibitors until the Government has constituted a central authority of management by Commission, and *given notice* of such appointment,—and only about three months remain to do it all; but it is no use fretting about lost time,—there must be *double energy* thrown into the collection of exhibitory goods, and it is no use *saying there is nothing here worth exhibition*, until the country has been invited to come forward, and refuses. We can exhibit under section 3 very respectably—class 19, flax and hemp—class 21, wool and horsehair—class 22, rag carpeting and rugs—class 25, skins and furs—class 26, leather and saddlery—class 30, household furniture, representing the Island woods in their manufactured beauty. Each colony will have a separate space assigned to it, distinct from other Colonies. In the article of timber, the specimens must in all cases be converted into plank four inches thick, with the sap on both edges, and some twigs, leaves and flowers when possible, pressed and dried. The object of this is for botanical classification.

Preserved wild fruits, and maple sugar, maple and birch vinegar, and all sorts of fish, in tins, with glass tops. There is nothing wanting in Prince Edward Island, Mr. Editor, to make a good impression of our products in grain and root crops, and all we have mentioned above, if energy, promptitude, honest action and union characterise the labours of the Commission.

NEMO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—The editor of the *Islander* has at length unmasked, and affixed his proper signature to a most turbulent and inflammatory address to the Protestant portion of this community—an address unquestionably calculated in many ways to rouse feelings of animosity long dormant, and as every benevolent individual might have hoped, forever set at rest. No more hoverings about the Bishop's residence—no more visits to Collegiate or conventualest ablishments—no further attempts to propitiate the favour of the proscribed: the task has been tried in vain, irksome and degrading as he must have felt it all along. The vizor is closed—the panoply donned, and the battle shout of defiance gone forth, and war to the death proclaimed against the hitherto peaceful and much tried Catholic. None will be found so obtuse as not to apprehend the motives which have induced this leader of a motley band of sour-faced bigots to raise the cry of incendiary strife. We cannot think that for genuine orthodoxy, or evangelical purity, the bewildered sceptre would toil and trouble; far other thoughts engross his attention. His real object in fomenting dissension and provoking a war of creeds is, that he may thereby delay yet a little longer the overthrow of an inefficient administration, involving his own prospective ruin. "What a fall was here"—a chief officer of the Government, Editor of a Government newspaper, a land agent actively hostile to the numerous tenantry of the Island—an unscrupulous partizan, unsupported by any constituency, and responsible to none but those of his own retrogressive clique, and a presumer for the most selfish considerations—condescends to sow the wind of false accusation, that one-half the population may reap from the other half the whirlwind—unites with unreligious indignation politics and religion, and goes forth a Moses among the Hebrews to draw the army and the host of the Romans into the red sea of electioneering strife. And for what? Though his Colonial Secretaryship be confirmed in blood, to retain it, and maintain it, the sinecure he has made it by neglect. Surely when the home authorities are made acquainted with their own servant's insane proceedings, the proper remedy will be found, and one at least worthy of respect will be charged with fresh instructions — instructions that prevent at least insults to religion from one "robed in brief authority" as Colonial Secretary, towards the thirty and five thousand people who constitute nearly half the Colony. Let every effort be made to support THE LIBERAL CAUSE, by firm and united resolve, and the great cause of prosperity and progress will not suffer from the machinations of The Hireling.

The Protestant and Catholic do or ought to enjoy equal political rights; and if undisturbed by people in the high places of the State, would and could share alike the benefits and privileges of our free and glorious constitution—sectarian differences would be unrecognized, and civil and religious privileges and immunities would extend to all. Let all, then, unite with brotherly hand to remove this dagon of Toryism and Terrorism from its pedestal, and lay his opinions, and threats, and warnings, and HOPES in the dust. The general welfare and prosperity of the country—not the claims of any party—must be the aim and object and watch-word of every voter in the coming struggle. To be fore-warned is to be fore-armed—says

A PROTESTANT CONSTITUENT.

(FOR THE EXAMINER)

W. H. POPE'S CURVE, OR THE WAY HE IS TRYING TO "COME ROUND" THE PROTESTANTS.

There is a political corner to be turned. W. H. Pope is trying to round that corner. He will be wise not to miscalculate the law of centrifugal force: that law is—centrifugal force which is always directed *from* the corner, increases with the velocity of the passing body.

Friend Pope, don't go too fast. Any animal possessing voluntary motion may cause its weight, as you may if you take care, to resist this force by inclining its body towards the corner; but if the individual enters a carriage—or, as in this case, the newspaper-vehicle of public opinion, and uses the lash as a means of rapid progression—the centrifugal force is NOT overcome, and the effect is generally that John upsets his apple-cart, and is *himself thrown out* in a direction opposite to the corner. Friend Pope, there is no one on the Island that wishes you to make this *dangerous experiment*, to your own hurt, although every one feels it would be a righteous verdict, "Serve him right," if you do, and thereby get a spill.

Friend Pope, do you innocently think you can set up a game of "Follow-the-leader" with the forty-five thousand Protestants round this corner?

Friend Pope, don't be offended at the allusion, but pause before the jaw-bone of the ass has done its destructive work. Send no foxes into your neighbour's corn — press not against the pillars of the constitution and equal rights. In a word, be honest to yourself, remembering the saying—"if a man cheat you once, it is your misfortune — if a second time, it is your FAULT." A cheat at the last Election was pushed into a misfortune; but it will be the fault of the Liberal party if at the coming election another is allowed to succeed.

Friend Pope, look and pause before you take the fatal leap. The *yawning chasm of distrust you would fain open with your* Protestant wedge will not close at the immolation of your proud ambition. Friend Pope, what ever you are for-*getting*, don't forget the law of centrifugal force, while you are trying to come round the Protestants. Your blood be upon your own head if you get a spill, and this be inscribed on your resting place:—

"Protestants charge—on Tories, on,
Were the last words of this minion."

COMMERCIAL VALUE OF INSECTS.—Who thinks of it? And yet in the economy of nature, of what immense importance they are in all seasons, every naturalist knows, while in commerce the amount derived from them is astounding. We have no figures to produce in regard to our own trade, for our statistics do not reach that high state of perfection which will admit of it; but Great Britain pays annually $1,000,000 for the dried carcasses of that tiny insect known as the cochineal; while another, also peculiar to India, gum shellac, or rather its productions, is scarcely less valuable. More than 1,500,000 human beings derive their support from the culture and manufacture of the fibres spun by the silk worm, of which the annual circulating medium is said to be $200,000,000. In England alone, we say nothing of the other parts of Europe, $500.00 are spent every year for the purchase of foreign honey, while the value of that which is native is not mentioned; and all this is the work of the bee; but this makes no mention of the 10,000 pounds of wax imported every year. Besides this, there are the gallnuts, used for dying and making ink; the cantharides or Spanish fly, used in medicine. In fact, every insect is contributing, directly or indirectly, in swelling the amount of our commercial profits. Even those which in some cases prove a plague, and become destructive, have their place in the economy of nature, and prevent worse.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., July 29, 1861.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM EUROPE.

THE English Mail, brought by the steamship *Arabia* to Halifax, where she arrived on Tuesday afternoon last, reached Charlottetown on Friday morning. Latest dates are to the 13th inst. We give below a summary of the news, which is not very important.

Parliament is sitting early and late, and the aged Premier, who passes the most of his time in the House of Commons, is now enabled to find his bed after his daily labors by the light of the morning sun. The business of the session, it seems, might be brought to a close by the end of the present month. Such is the opinion of the Speaker; 'but,' says the London correspondent of a country paper, it is feared by tired legislators that Lord Palmerston—glutton as he is for work, even at seventy-eight—will be unwilling to dismiss his young friends to their various sports and pastimes before the regular breaking up time—the 10th of August.'

In the Upper Chamber the Earl of Carnarvon preferred a complaint against the American Customs authorities for opening and searching British packages sent to Canada by way of Portland. We presume this complaint is well grounded, for it is an annoyance which we should hardly expect the American Government to countenance when the fact is brought under its notice. The Duke of Newcastle, who takes the colonies under his special protection, appeared to know nothing about it, and the same state of ignorance prevailed at the Foreign office.

Important Ministerial changes are rumored—Lord Herbert's ill health will cause him to resign his office at the head of the War Department. Some say that Sir George C. Lewis will go to the War office, and that he will be succeeded at the home office by Sir George Grey. Another rumor gives Lord Elgin the War office, another sends him to the Indian Board, preparatory to his assuming the Governor Generalship, as the successor of Lord Canning. Mr. Cardwell, it is also said, is to have a step in promotion in consequence of these changes; but all these statements must be received with caution.

The Queen's visit to Ireland cannot fail to excite great interest in the neighboring country. The people of Dublin will have the first opportunity of making the acquaintance of the Royal Family, for it is stated that the Sovereign and her retinue will remain a week at the Vice Regal Lodge, the guests of the present amiable and popular Lord Lieutenant. From Dublin the royal party will proceed to the seat of the Duke of Leinster, and there remain another week, and during her stay the Queen will visit daily the Camp on the Curragh of Kildare, where the Prince of Wales is now learning the initiatory steps in the art of war. Cork and Killarney will then be honored with a visit. Amidst the beautiful scenery of Kerry the Queen, who has not hitherto been familiar with that part of the Island, will enjoy the hospitalities of Colonel Herbert at Muckross, and of Lord Kenmare at his seat on the margin of one of the lakes. Both of these gentlemen, the former a Protestant, the latter a Roman Catholic, are great landed proprietors, and are beloved by the whole of the peasantry in the district. It is hardly possible to conceive mansions more delightfully situated. Viscount Castlerosse, son of the Earl of Kenmare, filled a situation in the royal household, and Col. Herbert, who is a relative of Lord Herbert, was the Irish Secretary during Lord Palmerston's first Government; so that Her Majesty is well known to both her entertainers.

Rifle-shooting has become one of the institutions of the country, and the space which the newspapers devote to the subject shows the hold which this species of sport has on the people. This week the shooting at Wimbloden for the Queen's prize of £250 and the gold medal of the National Rifle Association has been of a high order, and the competitors have included men in every station in life. A nobleman—Lord Bury—figured very prominently, but the fortunate winner was a person named Joplin, a member of the South Middlesex Volunteers, who has received something more substantial than honour as the fruit of his victory. There appears to be no diminution of the Volunteer enthusiasm, for it is likely to outlive the panic in which the movement originated, and such contests as those at Wimbledon will be certain to sustain and invigorate it. Kept within moderate limits, we can see nothing injurious in the Volunteer organization. It is inexpensive, it suits the taste of a large number of young men in the town and country districts who desire excitement of a healthy and invigorating kind, and it is productive of a sympathising patriotism which it is desirable to keep alive in the nation. If evil was likely to flow from it, the evil would have been apparent ere this, and we cannot help thinking that Messrs. Cobden and Bright, in their horror of war, have been premature in denouncing a system which may prove the best preservative of peace.

Speaking of Ireland Wilmer says: "It is gratifying, nevertheless, to know that the internal improvement of Ireland is steadily progressing, and this improvement will be the more certain and the more enduring when these party conflicts have entirely disappeared. The crops are promising, the people are well employed, and the material prosperity of the country has undergone a marked change during the last few years."

The *European Times* says:—Two bars of gold have reached London from Nova Scotia, being the first remittance from that quarter since the gold discoveries. It is described as of the average quality of Australian gold.

THE POPE'S HEALTH.—A letter from Rome of June 29, in the *Sentinella Bresciana*, says:—"The Pope is going fast; he is dying in sleep. The physician Francesco Sani, who was lately sent for, could not understand his strange malady."

A letter from Toulon to a Paris paper says:—"Measures are being adopted to bring back the French troops from China. It is thus proposed that in the course of a few months all the French troops abroad shall return to France, with the exception of the army which occupies Rome and the troops which are in Cochin China, who are to remain there like any other colonial garrison."

The *Freeman's Journal* states that the prospects of the harvest in Ireland are of the most encouraging character. There has been no appearance of disease in the potatoes.

The Prince of Wales will not visit the Royal Agricultural Show of Ireland, to be held at Belfast.

AFRICA.—H. M. S. *Falcon* had captured the slaver *Flight*, of Boston, U.S., with 554 slaves on board. The prize was at Sierra Leone on the 8th of June.—*The Dial.*

THE CIVIL WAR IN THE STATES.

BATTLE IN WESTERN VIRGINIA.

THERE is no longer any doubt that a battle has been fought between the armies of the Federal Government and the Southern Confederacy. Making due allowance for the exaggerations of the Telegraph, it has not been a very extensive fight, nor a preconcerted one, but it was something on a larger scale than a mere skirmish. The engagement took place about the 18th or 19th inst., at a place called Bull's Run, near the Manassas Junction, in Western Virginia. In the first part of the engagement, and down to a late hour of the day, the Federal Army was completely successful, destroying a considerable number of the Southern force, and capturing some of their batteries; but it appears that in the evening of the same day a large reinforcement of Southern troops came to the rescue of their brethren in arms, and turned the tide of victory against the Federalists—slaughtering a large number of them, and forcing them to retreat on their regular encampment in a precipitate and disastrous manner. The Telegraph is, as usual, vague and contradictory in its reports of the results of this battle, one despatch setting down the number of killed and wounded at four or five thousand on the Federal side, and about an equal loss on the part of the Secessionists; while another despatch represent the casualties at only about as many hundreds; and yet another assures us that only 800 Federalists and 4000 Secessionists were engaged in the fight; while another telegraph report magnifies the numbers to 20,000 and 90,000 respectively. It is hard to believe anything in the face of such contradictory statements. It seems certain, however, that more blood has been spilled in the engagement at Bull's Run than has characterised any former collision of arms since the Civil War commenced; but the immense talk that is made about it, and the arrant lying of the telegraph, take away much of the interest that would be felt in the struggle by a neutral people, and tend to bring the whole controversy into contempt.

From the New York *World's* account of the battle of Bull's Run we take the following:

"The fourth brigade of General Tyler's division, Colonel Richardson commanding, led the order of march, but General Tyler pushed ahead with his staff and an escort of 300 of the regular cavalry, second regiment, Capt. Brackett, to reconnoitre the enemy's position. On arriving at a height opposite Bull's Run, a long valley slope of open field stretched out between them and the enemy. We saw bodies of the enemy's foot and horse gleaming in a dense, ugly piece of woods beyond the valley, and appearing now and then about the farm houses at the edge of the woods.

Gen. Tyler sent back for two 20-pounders, Parrott's rifled cannon, with which to shell the points where the troops were seen. Our position commanded them finely.

When the guns arrived they were quickly planted, and served by Lieuts. Babbitt and Benjamin. An admirable range was taken, and the first then dislodged a body of cavalry from a grove a mile and a half distant. We continued to fire both guns, and the General ordered Ayres, late of Sherman's Battery, to advance and join in the fire.

Our cannonading thus commenced the action at precisely 12¼ o'clock p. m.

No rifles were fired for half an hour, though with the aid of our glasses we could see bodies of men coming down the hill from Manassas and elsewhere, and apparently filing into the woods; but at 1 o'clock a battery of four guns opened directly on our position from the edge of the woods. We saw then that we had started the game. The range had evidently been taken long ago by the enemy, for grape shot fell hot and heavy. Brackett's cavalry was drawn up in the rear of our guns, and two privates were dismounted by the first fire.

Richardson's Brigade now came up, and Gen. Tyler gave them permission to reconnoitre the woods to the right and left, and, if possible, to take the enemy's guns, which had been silenced for some minutes.

Our column advanced under cover of the rolling ground, on the left, and along the nearest range of the curve of forest on this side.

The Massachusetts First Regiment led the van, followed by the Michigan Second, Third and Fifth. The Twelfth New York lay in reserve. The column moved forward, stretching across the field, and declined to the extreme right near the location of the battery.

The majority dashed into the woods in fine order on the left and centre. For a while all was still. We could see our skirmishers advance close to the place from which their shots came, and fancied that the enemy had retreated on the Junction. It was now precisely 2 o'clock. Suddenly there were scattered musket shots in the densest woods, under cover of which the Michigan regiment and part of the Massachusetts regiment were invisible. There followed one or two rolls of volleys by platoons. 'They are at it,' said the General. '*Indeed they are*,' was the reply. In a few minutes the most rapid and tremendous musketry practice conceivable was going on in the woods.

It was evident that the enemy were ambuscaded in great force. Brackett's cavalry closed down to the edge of the woods.

Wounded men began to be brought out to the ambulances in the fields, and the reserve was ordered to plunge into the woods to support the advance.

Two field howitzers were also detailed from Ayers' Battery, and swiftly disappeared in the woods.

They opened fire at once, and were replied to by the enemy's cannon, which had been evidently moved to the left of their morning position. The platoon firing also redoubled in force. Our men fired at fearful disadvantage, their ranks breaking among the trees, while the enemy, lying in rifle trenches and behind embankments, fired with great regularity and terrific slaughter. They must have used many thousand rounds of cartridges in the engagement.

Companies F, G, and H, of the Massachusetts First, who were on the right, led by Lt. Col. Wells, were the first to follow the skirmishers into the woods, and cleared the enemy's advance before them. Suddenly they were subjected to a fire from three different points, and many of their men fell. The rest stood their ground until they got into the cross fire of the Michigan regiment, and then retreated in some disorder.

The two howitzers which entered the woods, commanded by Capt. Ayres, did not fire upon a body of secessionists, supposing them to be friends, but passed them by, and also fell into a terrible musketry fire. Capt. Brackett, of the cavalry, who was close by, says that in all his Mexican experience he never saw such a tempest of balls. Ayres served his guns with grape and canister till his ammunition was exhausted and then retired, bringing the howitzer with him.

None of the Massachusetts companies, except the three above mentioned, participated in the fight.

The artillery men numbered only eighteen in all, including Ayres and Lieut. Loraine, the latter of whom were slightly wounded. All the horses were killed, and the men dragged the guns out themselves.

A curious feature of the fight was the position of the cavalry close to the edge of the woods.

A battle has not been known of late years wherein the cavalry has been thus used to close up the rear of an attacking force.

Our howitzers fire was most effective—the enemy overshot the range, and his cannon balls whirled through the Hill Battery position most unpleasantly.

Under the circumstances, it was not surprising that our brave fellows retired from the woods, the enemy firing on their rear, but not venturing to leave their hiding places. The cavalry of course led the retreat.

From our eminence we covered the retreat by a most tremendous cannonade from all our guns, eight in number. The enemy replied on our battery and on the retiring columns—with what effect I do not yet know, though the shots fell all about and among us.

The Michigan Second, New York 12th and companies G and H of the Massachusetts First, are supposed to have suffered the most.

The Michigan troops acted well, but as yet I can state nothing with certainty in regard to the other regiments.

For an hour the final cannonading on both sides was terrific.

Our shells burst all among the enemy, and their loss must be severe, as by appearances half of Beauregard's army were in the thickets. The place of retreating was so narrow that it was impossible to get out of the enemy's fire. I noticed by the battery Hon. Owen Lovejoy, Henry J. Raymond, Esqr., and other civilians, eagerly watching the terrific contest. The battle was finally ended for the day, unless the enemy should conclude to attack our position to-night, before the Sherman brigade, consisting of the 69th and 79th regiments, can come up in the rear.

The day was frightfully hot. For miles no water had been found along the route, and our troops went into action thirsty, and came out half dead. Nor have we any rations to-night, our provisions not yet having arrived. If the enemy had ventured into the open valley, the Hill battery would have mowed them down by the column.

Gen. Tyler and staff were under fire throughout the action. Our troops are now returning to their supperless camp.

A few houses in Centreville will probably be taken for our wounded men."

LATEST INTELLIGENCE BY TELEGRAPH FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

THE following telegrams to the Halifax *Reporter* give further and later intelligence of the battle near Manassas Junction. How far they can be relied upon, we are not prepared to say:

BOSTON, July 23d, 1861.

The Union army of about fifty thousand men, under the command of General McDowell, after capturing three batteries near Manassas Junction, was met by a large force of Confederate troops, and eventually repulsed, and commenced retreating towards Washington.

The loss on both sides is stated to have been frightful.

The Federalist's loss is alone reported at least from four to five thousand men, with a large number wounded.

WASHINGTON, July 22.

A correspondent who was present in the battle field says:—

We were advancing rapidly, taking every battery on our way, and driving the enemy, who were in considerable force around us, towards Manassas Junction, when the enemy were suddenly reinforced by General Johnson, who immediately took the command.

The Union army were then driven back; and whilst in the course of the retreat, a portion of it became panic stricken. McDowell used all the means at his command to make a stand at Centreville and Fairfax, but all to no purpose. The rear of the army, however, retreated in good order, or otherwise the consequences would have been more serious. The retreat was kept up steadily until the troops reached their regular encampment, many of the men having fallen by the way through mere exhaustion. The enemy's effective force was fully ninety thousand.

LATEST.

It is reported that a portion of the Union army has returned to Fairfax, and that troops are rapidly crossing into Virginia.

Some of the New York regiments suffered fearfully. The gallant Fire Zouaves were terribly cut up, and only two hundred of them remained alive. The rebel Black Horse Guard fell upon this remnant. The Zouaves then turned upon the Cavalry and committed such havoc amongst them that only six escaped alive.

The 69th, New York Irish Regiment, was also badly cut up.

During the retreat McDowell was constantly in the rear, endeavouring to check the panic stricken portion of the army, but his orders were not attended to, if they reached those for whom they were intended.

This panic was undoubtedly caused by false orders issued by traitors in the army. When the retreat became general many threw away their knapsacks and guns; and the road through Fairfax and Centreville was strewn with such articles.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

By the arrival of the Newfoundland Mail Packet at Halifax, on Monday last, the following intelligence was received:—

The *Patriot* understands, on good authority, that General Law, who for several years resided in Newfoundland, is to succeed Sir A Bannerman as Governor of that Island.

A young man in the employ of the Water Company was killed by "sun-stroke" at St. John's on the 11th inst. On that day the thermometer stood at 114 in the shade!

A fire occurred at Newman's Cove, a short distance from Bonavista, on the 8th instant, in the house of a man named Brown, who with his son was out fishing, when, melancholy to relate, five of his daughters were burned to death. The mother escaped through the window, with the hair all burned off her head.

The Rev. J. O'Neill, a Catholic clergyman, distinguished for his many virtues, died on the 10th instant, at Trepassy.

The *Courier* of the 17th says:—Intelligence was received by the steamer *Victoria*, which arrived yesterday morning from the Westward, that with the exception of Placentia and its neighbourhood, the fishery along the steamer's route has been very indifferent. In the neighbourhood of St. John's also it has not been so encouraging as we should like to see it.

We regret to learn that the prospects of the fishery at Topsail, and on the south side of Conception Bay, generally are far from encouraging this season. The caplin struck in about the 18th of June, and the fishery went on briskly; we are sorry to add, however, for a short time only, the caplin having remained but six days, and since they left little or nothing has been taken.—*Harbor Grace Standard.*

THE SPY—AGAIN.

THE *Islander* still labours to invent excuses for the employment of Mr. Whitman as a spy on the tenantry of this Colony; and at the same time, as if fully conscious that the act is an indefeasible one, Mr. Secretary Pope makes two or three attempts to impress upon us the belief that the local Government was no party to it. Great stress is laid upon the fact that the Hon. Mr. Howe is liberal in his politics—that he is the tenant's friend—that he was nominated by the Government to protect the interests of the people—that he selected Mr. Whitman for his extraordinary mission,—and that it is not likely Mr. Howe would do a thing calculated to injure the tenantry or bring disgrace upon the Government that nominated him. This attempt to relieve the Government from the odium of encouraging the spy system, might be plausible enough if the officials knew nothing of Mr. Whitman while on his travels; but some of them at least encouraged him as far as they could, and gave him access to the public records, and in doing so the whole Government were compromised.

Mr Secretary Pope innocently asks us to "tell the country the nature of the information obtained by Mr. Whitman and communicated to the Commissioners," for he says he is quite ignorant on the subject; and in the same paragraph he positively states that Mr. Whitman was selected by Mr. Howe and sent here to obtain statistical information regarding the value of lands, as a set off against the statements by the proprietors to the Commissioners on the same subject. Now, if Mr. Pope's word is to be taken on one or two points, namely, that he knew nothing about Mr. Whitman or his mission—and knows nothing about the information he collected for the Commissioners, how can we believe him when he states that the spy was the sole nominee of Mr. Howe, and that his object was to get testimony to rebut that of the proprietors? But supposing that such was the object of Mr. Whitman's perigrinations, what was the use of the "information" he collected when it was obtained under false pretences—when farmers were induced to put an extravagant value on their lands by the report that great railways, fishing companies, and canals were to be established in their midst?

Mr. Pope asserts that "the Counsel for the tenantry in his closing address to the Court, dwelt with much force upon the fact that the agents of the proprietors were enabled to bring into Court a great deal of evidence, statistics, &c., to support their case, while the tenantry were not in a position to furnish him with any thing of the kind." Mr. Thomson's closing speech—the Counsel referred to—has never been published, and we cannot say whether he remarked that the tenantry had not given him sufficient information; but we think it is extremely doubtful that he said any thing of the kind; for the information supplied by and on behalf of the tenantry was most extensive and accurate. All the leading men of the Colony who take an interest in the welfare of the tenantry, and who are opposed to proprietory domination, placed before the Commissioners such information as could be gathered from the Journals of the Legislature, other public records, and a life-long experience. Besides, the tenantry throughout the Counties were well represented by the members they had sent to the Assembly, and by many other gentlemen of intelligence, character and influence—who have a perfect knowledge of the working of the leasehold system—whose minds are stored with the best and fullest information concerning it—and who would not knowingly assert an untruth about it. But the *Islander* boldly libelled the country, by declaring, in its issue of the 28th June, that the statements given by those leading men and delegates were falsehoods; and the attempt then and since made to justify Mr. Whitman's prowling mission is based on the assumption that the bits and scraps of information gathered by a stranger, in a false character, with falsehoods on his tongue, are to be considered of more value than the evidence given in a public Court by the most respectable men in the community.

The *Islander* says:—"The Commission has met with every opposition from Coles and Whelan—and the part they took in its proceedings, after they found they could not defeat it, was simply to induce in the minds of the people unreasonable expectations."

It is not true that "the Commission" met with every opposition from "Coles and Whelan"—Col. Gray's resolutions, which were intended to form the groundwork of the Commission, certainly met with opposition from them, because those resolutions ignored the questions of original titles, fishery reserves, quit rents, loyalist claims, &c. But the resolutions did not receive the approval of the Colonial Minister, and a Commission was granted which it was supposed would exercise full powers over every matter connected with the land question. Mr. Thomson, the gentleman appointed by the Island Government to advocate the cause of the Tenantry, declared in his opening speech to the Commissioners that unless they could investigate every matter involved in the general question—escheat, fishery reserves, quit rents, &c., and make their award absolute and final touching them all—they might as well throw up their Commission at once, as their enquiry would be only a partial one and a delusion. But Mr. Thomson contended that the powers of the Commission extended to every branch of the Land Question, and that the award would be absolute. Mr. Secretary Pope did not take this view of the matter. Mr. Coles and Mr. Whelan, however, felt inclined to adopt Mr. Thomson's view, and gave their support to the Commission while it was sitting. If, then, "unreasonable expectations" have been excited, the lawyer appointed and paid by the Government to advocate the tenants' cause is the person who should be held to account. But the Government themselves have in repeated instances gone quite as far as Mr. Thomson, by declaring that every cause of difference and dispute would be adjusted by the Commission. The Duke of Newcastle's late despatches have, however, thoroughly opened the eyes of the public as to the scope of the enquiry. From these it is not difficult to perceive that the result cannot be at all favourable to the tenantry—that nearly all the great questions are interdicted; and that the hopes and expectations of the tenantry have been trifled with in the most culpable manner.

The editor of the *Islander* would fain wriggle out of the dilemma in which he placed himself by saying that the delegates gave false evidence to the Commissioners. In his paper of July 26, he says:—"We are not aware that the *Islander* ever stated that it was necessary to have a man like Mr. Whitman to correct false statements made to the Land Commissioners, &c."

The *Islander* DID say that "false statements" were made by the delegates, and Mr. Whitman's mission was deemed necessary to correct those statements, as will appear by the following extracts from the leading article in the *Islander* of the 28th June:—

"As yet the information that had been furnished them had proceeded from deeply interested parties, and, as was natural, each had endeavored to make the best of his own side of the