

humiliating to the North, would be such a concession; rather gratifying, in itself, to the South to discover such weakness in the Northern cause. "In effect we are told," says the *New York World*, "that the 20,000,000 of the North are no match for the 6,000,000 of the South—that we are doomed to defeat, unless we get the help of the black man. They do not like to have it put just in that style, but it amounts to exactly that. Short of that, their 'military necessity' would be a misnomer, and their claim to abolitionize under the war-power the baldest pretext. Emancipation as a military necessity! If emancipation must come, for the honor of our fathers, for our own independence, for the prospects of our children for the good name of free government, and for the dignity of the white race, let it take any shape but that."

All this apart from the Christian aspect of the emancipation project. But, says a writer in the *Christian Review*; "for ourselves, we greatly prefer to see slavery untouched by the war; to see it perish, not amidst the shock of arms and the unimaginable horrors of a great political and military convulsion, but by the more peaceful and salutary processes which are sure sooner or later to bring it to its end. We would not that the baptismal rite of African emancipation should be a baptism of blood. We would that master and slave should rejoice together in that day of coming redemption, when the Ethiopian shall stretch out his hands unshackled unto God, and should bless the Christian philanthropy that has gradually and beneficently loosened the fetters of his bondage."

It is just here that many Christians have of late forgotten the principles and spirit of Christianity. Well did "*Pacem*" write in the *Messenger*: "It has been said that were the suppression of slavery the object of the war, British sympathy would be accorded. That such an end would sanctify such means as war, I cannot understand. God has said, 'Vengeance is mine.' What have Christians been thinking about who have thus sought to press on the Northern States a policy which, were it a practicable scheme, would inevitably cause Southern slavery to be 'extinguished in the blood and flames of intestine war and servile insurrection?'"

These fearful consequences would surely follow the carrying out of immediate slave-emancipation in the Southern States. The blood not only of cruel slave-masters and hunters, but also that of hundreds of innocent mothers and children would, in that event, be profusely shed. But were British slaves liberated by any such ruthless system? Can Christians consistently pray for such a doom of American slavery?—For my own part, I earnestly hope to be kept from praying for the inauguration of a policy involving such results,—except as a *ultima ratio* for the Northern States. If they find that they cannot bring back the South to allegiance to the Federal Government in any other way than through the aid of armed slaves, then I should pray: "Let slavery die the death!" For while this war is not, and ought not to be, a war purposely aimed at slavery, yet "slavery must not stand in the way of the paramount interests of the Republic. If slavery take the initiative and invoke the aid of the sword, if it place itself," writes an American Christian, "between us and the secure heritage of National Liberty, we know nothing in it so sacred or beneficent that may shield it from the doom which it has provoked. Better that slavery perish, than that we prove faithless to our trust, and entail eternal feud and anarchy upon succeeding generations." Happily for the slave, for Southern homes, and for the nation, such a necessity has not yet come upon the North. But "there need be no apprehension" writes one "that slavery will not suffer sufficiently for its agency in this rebellion.—Every discerning man sees, every thoughtful man knows, that it has drawn consequences upon itself that are as fatal to its existence as would have been the annihilating bolts of heaven. There need be no fear of its escape. It is doomed beyond recall. It is to perish inch by inch, and therein its retribution will be all the more terrible. There is reason why it should not be struck down suddenly. It has its hold upon too many civil and social interests for this to be done safely. Not for its own sake would we stay the avenging blow for an instant, but for the good of the nation, for the order of society, for the welfare of the poor slave himself, we would give it a slower exit." But, Mr. Editor, there is very strong reason to believe that this Rebellion has doomed American slavery beyond recall to an early death. Many of us appear to doubt it; many of us seem to think that the North have shown to the world, since the inception of this civil war, that they do not care much about the poor slave; that they "after two years, willing to show the Jews a pleasure, will leave Paul bound." Many of us have been saying to the North: "O you are winking at slavery; you are wanting either in the courage or the disposition to look slavery in the face; you will, after all your fighting is over, let it live, and even render it aid and comfort."

Many of us, I verily believe, have the rather failed to comprehend the Rebellion and the cause of the North; have failed to see, or to remember, that slavery was not made the pretext of the Southern revolt, however much it may, in reality, have had to do with their secession. We have neglected to call to mind that, up to this stage of the war, the North have not had occasion to make slavery the issue between themselves and the South. When that crisis does come, I firmly believe that the Government at Washington, and the people of the free States will be ready—will be eager to grapple with slavery. And for many reasons I hold this belief. Now I admit that there are, probably, in those Northern States hundreds of men who care vastly more for the "almighty dollar" than for the liberty of the African slave. I admit that "money, money—the successful pursuit of wealth

—material development,—this was the Moloch at whose shrine every thing precious and sacred was to be offered up." I admit that a little longer, and the whole body of that nation would have been "the scorn of the civilized world, and the abomination of Heaven."

But the present war is teaching that people "great and salutary lessons." Already a very marked change has come over them, especially in respect to slavery. Christian—and worldly—men now see God's hand visibly beckoning to them to wipe out at once and forever from their nation the foul curse of slavery, and their determination is steadily growing strong to see that it be done.—Let us not "judge them before the time." Let us offer our prayers for this "consummation devoutly to be wished," with strong faith in God, in the signs of the times, and in our brethren of the Northern States.

The Federal Government too, are watching for the hour to come in which to strike for the emancipation of slavery. Do we doubt this, on the ground of their extreme sensitiveness and caution on this score thus far? It has been the bounden duty of that Government, as a Government faithful to its trust and oath, to pursue the consistent, undeviating policy which Mr. Lincoln and his official associates have in so good a degree pursued. But point out a man in the present Federal Government, much more in the Cabinet at Washington, who is not strongly enough anti-slavery in his views, to be determined to make those views a part of his Government's policy at the earliest practicable moment. "Why," said Charles Sumner—a Senate who, for his proclamation of anti-slavery sentiments, felt the force of a Southern cane—said he recently in a speech at Boston: "Slavery cannot live in our nation unless it owns the Government. It has now lost that essential element of its existence." And then Charles Sumner probably no other man in the Federal Congress knows better its pulse on the Slave-question.

Slavery, there is good ground for believing, will never again be able to dictate its despotic terms in Washington. This, then, is a great triumph over slavery, and is, in itself ominous of its early death. It has, however, been said that Slavery cannot be touched by the Federal Government until the Constitution is changed. Whether or not any alteration of that document is essential, not to a military, but a peaceful emancipation, is a point yet somewhat disputed. But if it shall be determined that the Constitution protects slavery, I believe the Nation will, after this war is over, amend the Constitution—so far as to remove out of sight every obstruction of that sort. After this Rebellion is effectually crushed—yes, then would seem to occur the best time for the abolition of slavery by our American neighbors. True a time of peace may not prove God's time for it. But British slavery was peacefully abolished, and such, Christians are taught to believe, is God's method. Meanwhile the chief instrumentality used by the war power in respect to slavery will be "confiscation." "Every rebel who shall continue contumacious should be stripped of every dollar of his property, that which he calls his slave-property included. This of itself will give deliverance to hundreds of thousands of slaves, quite as many as the Government can take under its guardianship, and put in the way of self-helping freedom. The whole system of slavery will thus be severely maimed at a stroke; and what is left should be loaded with every burden and constraint that the Federal Constitution will permit."

Other hopeful indications that Southern slavery is now receiving its death-blow might be pointed out, for example, the changes which success to the Northern arms will effect on the face of Society in different parts of the Southern States. I refer to the anti-slavery element which the transient residence and permanent settlement of Northerners, especially of New Englanders in the South will there infuse.

Also, should the Rebellion last much longer, King Cotton bids fair to strangle slavery. England will greatly reduce the value of slave-labor in the Southern States by securing her supplies of Cotton, in whole or in part, from other countries.

I will reserve a few more things which I wish to say about this Rebellion, for another letter,—save one prediction which I feel compelled here to make. "Though I am no prophet, neither a prophet's son," yet one result connected with this Rebellion is in my view certain. It is this, that unless British Christians, instead of joining as they have so largely done, either by silent or stentorian consent, in the general tirade of their nation against the North in the war, and in its practical, if not frequently outspoken fellowship with the Southern Rebellion—if instead of this consorting with slavery, British Christians do not speedily manifest a whole-hearted sympathy with at least the present cause of their brethren in the Northern States, their mouths will have become long closed on this question of slave-emancipation. Addresses from separate or united bodies of Christians in Great Britain, to their American brethren, on behalf of their duty to the slave, will come with an ill grace and with small influence when they are known to proceed from those who, during long months—in the hours too of America's greatest need and desert of anti-slavery sympathy, denounced those earnestly contending with slavery and showed a practical pro-slavery interest and approbation.

A word in my next about "British Neutrality," which Britishers have of late so much talked about, and, in many instances, abused.

A. C.

A monument is to be erected in Dublin to the memory of Prince Albert.

An accident has occurred to the *Great Eastern*, by one of the shores of the gridiron causing an indentation of one of the ship's plates, which will require to be replaced.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notice.

MRS. MARY HEMEON, MRS. SOPHIA HEMEON.

Died January 24, 1862, in the 83rd year of her age, Mrs. Mary Hemeon, the wife of our late much esteemed Brother Philip Hemeon, who died November 29, 1861. Also on January 20th, 1862, in the 43rd year of her age, Mrs. Sophia Hemeon, wife of Captain Charles Hemeon, son of the above Mrs. Mary Hemeon.

Both these sisters exemplified the power of that faith they professed to love. Two lights are thus extinguished from this world and two more witnesses in favour of Christianity have passed away, for they were preserved by faith unto eternal life.—Communicated by Bro. Nathaniel Holmes.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, March 18th.

After several private Bills had been reported from committees, some local Bills passed, and several petitions presented it was proposed that the House go into Committee of Supply.—In consequence of several members being absent—determined by the storm—it was agreed at the request of Dr. Tupper, to defer doing so until their return.

The House went into Committee on Bills and took up the Patent Laws. The resolution of Hon. Mr. Johnston that the granting of patents should not be confined to residents of the Province or to those connected with us by nationality, was debated at some length. The question was discussed as quite an open question.

Hon. Attorney General moved—"That it is impolitic to grant patents to any persons not residents in the Province." Several argued against any general law but would prefer to leave the matter open.

Mr. Shannon suggested that the Gold Commissioner might have charge of the patents at first and when it becomes necessary there might be a separate office. He thought every man's inventions should be protected, as by them the world was benefitted. The Atty Genl's amendment was carried 22 to 12.

A resolution of the Attorney General, deferring all bills before the house asking for patent rights, was next carried.

The house in committee passed the Bill to amend the act relating to frauds upon creditors by secret bills of sale; and the Bill to naturalize certain aliens.

The bill relating to joint stock companies was taken up and discussed.

Hon. Mr. Johnston moved a resolution making the shareholders of any company personally liable for any amount that the liabilities of the company, in case of insolvency, may exceed the capital.

Hon. Prov. Sec'y expressed himself in favor of having creditors protected by some guard, as the double liability clause had been thrown out in his absence.

The committee reported without having come to any decision on the amendment.

WEDNESDAY, March 19th.

The House met in the morning and several Bills were read a third time and passed.

In the afternoon session a number of enquiries were made concerning the suits tried before Magistrates, Post office contracts, &c. after which the Gold Bill was taken up for its third reading.

Hon. Mr. Johnston expressed his opinion that more encouragement should be given to miners than was offered by the bill, and moved that the rents of the several areas provided by the bill be reduced one-half—\$20, \$40, \$80 and \$120.

Hon. Attorney General thought that the mines should supply a revenue for the general purposes of the province and so benefit the whole people.

The resolution being then put was lost by 19 to 24.

Yeas—Pryor, Wade, Cowie, Shannon, McFarlane, Martell, More, Harrington, Longley, Tobin, Donkin, Bourinot, Tupper, McKinnon, P. Smyth, Caldwell, Robicheau, Shaw, Hon. Mr. Johnston.

Nays—Hatfield, Killam, Bailey, Burgess, L. Smyth, Martell, Townsend, A. Campbell, Robertson, Grant, Gammell, Blanchard, McLellan, Chambers, Eason, Financial Secretary, Attorney General, S. Campbell, Heffernan, Morrison, Locke, Chipman, Brown, Provincial Secretary.

Hon. Mr. Johnston thought that the 16th clause, which gives the Government the power to grant leases of larger areas and on modified terms, under special circumstances, should be expunged. He was unwilling he stated that the Government should have the power to modify the restrictions of the bill at their pleasure, under the pressure of some influence that might be brought to bear upon them. He therefore moved:—If the bulk of the people are to be placed in the enjoyment of a Provincial property, under the rigid restrictions which this act imposes, it is unfair to open a door to favoritism and partiality, therefore resolved that the 16th clause be expunged.

Mr. Harrington seconded the resolution, which was lost by 21 to 22.

Yeas—Pryor, Martell, Killam, Hatfield, Wade, Cowie, Shannon, McFarlane, Townsend, More, Harrington, Longley, Tobin, Donkin, Bourinot, McKinnon, P. Smyth, Caldwell, Robicheau, Shaw, Hon. Mr. Johnston.

Nays—Bailey, L. Smyth, Morton, A. Campbell, Robertson, Grant, Gammell, Blanchard, McLellan, Chambers, Eason, Financial Secre-

tary, Attorney General, Provincial Secretary, S. Campbell, Locke, Morrison, Ross, Chipman, Brown, C. Campbell, Heffernan.

Hon. Mr. Johnston moved an amendment to the 20th clause providing for an extension of the time given to prospectors between the selection of their claims and their application to the Gold Commissioners, from 24 hours to 7 days; which was agreed to.

Several other amendments were proposed modifying the power of the Commissioner over the rights of the proprietors of the soil, and the royalty on gold; which were all lost.

The Bill then passed and was sent to the Legislative Council.

Mr. Blanchard presented a Bill to amend the Act respecting the City of Halifax. Mr. Tobin opposed the Bill.

THURSDAY, March 20th.

Mr. Grant presented two petitions from Pictou, one from the Academy and the other concerning Agriculture.

Hon. Prov. Sec'y laid on the table of the House the correspondence respecting the pension to Judge Haliburton.

Dr. Tupper wished to know what the government intended to do in this matter as it would bear on the Estimates for the year.

Hon. Prov. Sec'y would take an early opportunity of informing the House.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY. THE BUDGET.

Dr. Tupper, in a speech of an hour and a half, introduced a scheme for meeting the deficiency in the Estimates. He reviewed the facts brought out by the Statements of the Financial Secretary, whereas last year there appeared a balance in hand—in favor of the Province of \$14,942.15; this year we find a balance against the country of \$136,689.11. The Financial Secretary had proposed to meet this deficit by an increase of duties, which if his calculations were well-founded might accomplish the object sought; but he (Dr. T.), believed they would be found far from correct. He did not believe that the deficiency should be charged to the war in the United States, but even supposing it were, the prospect is not improved. The war continues and the credit of the province must suffer if some change were not effected, he therefore proposed that instead of putting on an increase of taxation—except on liquors—a reduction should be made on the expenditure and he proposed to lower the salaries of the officials—from the Lieutenant Governor, the Judges, the Legislature, &c. &c., down to the Messenger of the Council and to abolish some offices altogether.—This he believed would be found necessary as the increase of duties would diminish importations and embarrass trade; consequently not yield the addition required.

The following is the resolution proposed by Dr. Tupper:

Resolved, That this House go into Committee of the whole on the General State of the Province, for the purpose of considering the means necessary to effect the following reductions in the Estimates now submitted by the Government:—

	Present Salary.	Reduced Salary.	Saving.
The Lieutenant Governor,	\$15,000	\$12,000	\$3,000
The Chief Justice,	3200	2800	400
Assistant Judge,	3250	2850	400
do. do.	2800	2400	400
do. do.	2800	2400	400
do. do.	2800	2400	400
Provincial Secretary,	2800	2400	400
Receiver General,	2400	2000	400
Financial Secretary,	2400	2200	200
Attorney General,	2000	1600	400
Commissioner of Crown Lands,	2000	1800	200
2nd Clerk Prov. Sec'y's Office,	450	400	50
3rd do. do.	450	400	50
1st Clerk Rec. General's Office,	200	—	200
3rd Clerk Crown Land Office,	80	—	80
4th do. do.	500	450	50
Private Sec. to Lieut. Governor,	1250	—	1250
Contingencies of Sec'y's Office,	500	—	500
including Telegrams of do.	—	—	400
Do. Receiver General's Office,	150	—	150
Do. Financial Secretary's do.	300	—	300
Messenger of Council,	160	—	160
Saving,			\$2900

Legislative Council:—

Members' pay,	4990	501	each	840
Clerk,	800	600	200	
Law Clerk,	600	400	200	
Gentleman Usher Black Rod,	300	200	100	
Reporting & Publishing Debates,	350	—	350	
Messengers,	260	200	60	
Contingencies, including printing,	1000	600	400	
Postage of Members,	700	40s. each.		
Saving,				\$2150

House of Assembly:—

Members' pay, &c.,	13700	501	each	2200
Speaker,	800	400	400	
Sergeant-at Arms,	300	200	100	
Assistant do.	180	100	80	
Clerk,	1200	800	400	
Do. Assistant,	800	600	200	
Chairman of Committees,	160	80	80	
Contingencies,	1330	1000	330	
Postage,	2000	40s. each.		
Saving,				\$3790

Hospital for Insane:—

Medical Superintendent,	2000	1800	200	
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Revenue Department, Halifax:—

Controller of Customs,	1000	800	200	
Warehouse Keeper,	1000	800	200	
3 Landing Waiters,	2600	1800	800	
6 Clerks,	3340	remove	1,350	
2 Guaguers,	1200	1000	200	
Tide Surveyor,	650	600	50	
3 Shipping Officers,	1650	1500	150	
11 Warehouse Lockers,	6500	5000	500	
3 Weighers,	1650	1500	150	
Tide Waiters and Boatmen,	5000	4000	1000	
Incidental Expenses,	800	400	400	
Saving,				\$4916

Pictou Controller,	1000	800	200	
Yarmouth Controller,	1000	800	200	

Saving, \$400