

The *Montreal Gazette* records the first accident on the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railroad, which occurred on the 22nd ult., in the rock cutting near Durham station. A wood train being a little behind its time, the driver took it into a siding to wait the passing of the passenger-up-train from Montreal; but the thermometer being 15° or 20° below zero, he detached the locomotive to keep it in motion, so that the steam might prevent the pipes freezing up. In the meantime, while some distance on the main track, the passenger train came up at full speed, and before the siding could be reached, or the train stopped, a smash took place, by which the conductor was rather severely hurt, and some of the passengers slightly. An enquiry was held the following day by the President and Chief Engineer, which resulted in the complete exculpation of the engine driver of the passenger train and the dismissal of the other.

By the last *Canada Gazette* we notice that the Provincial Parliament stands further prorogued to the ninth day of March next, not then to meet for the despatch of business. It is rumoured that the Legislature will not be convened till June next.

**THE COURSE OF OUR TRADE.**—The following is a comparative statement of imports of Canadian produce at Oswego, for the past two years:

	1850.	1851.
Flour .....	260,874	259,875
Wheat .....	1,094,444	676,202
Rye .....	7,199	53,950
Oats .....	90,156	78,771
Peas .....	22,380	60,345
Potatoes .....	10,372	11,466
Lumber .....	50,675,682	62,527,843
Ashes .....	1,580	534
Butter .....	225,077	75,000
Wood .....	76,941	82,908

The very considerable falling off in the shipments to the United States appears to have been amply made up by the increased exports to England, as shown in the following statement of exports from Montreal:—

	1850.	1851.
To the United Kingdom...	255,452	362,187
Other places .....	107,958	96,341

The shipments from Montreal are almost exclusively of Agricultural produce; and the increase in the quantity sent to England is forty per cent, while to other places, including the United States, there has been a considerable decrease. These figures should be sufficient to show our American neighbours the folly of their high duties. In the meantime our canals and ports are obtaining all the benefit; and if the change which has commenced continues at the same rate, the latter may look forward to a time of great prosperity.—*Globe*.

**THE CABINET.**—Hon. Doctor Rolph reached town yesterday, and had a conference with Hon. M. Cameron. We are authorized by Mr. Cameron to say, that he will accept the office assigned to him with the Bureau of Agriculture attached. He intends to appeal to his constituents at the earliest moment possible. We congratulate the Reform party upon this happy solution of a grave difficulty. Dr. Rolph will leave again for Quebec in a few days. Mr. Cameron has gone westward to arrange his private affairs, and will follow the Hon. Commissioner to the Seat of Government. It has been rumoured that the Inspector General was about starting for England on Railway business. Such a visit is not improbable, though we are not aware that it has been determined upon.—*North American*.

#### THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

A very interesting scene occurred in the Supreme Court on Tuesday last. Before proceeding to business Mr. Justice Haliburton rose, and addressed the gentlemen of the Bar—apprising them of the fact that the long period of forty-five years had elapsed since the elevation to the Bench of our worthy Chief Justice. His Lordship remarked, that although he was himself advanced in years—he could only recollect him as a Judge, and that he presided on the Bench during the trial of the first cause in which he had been engaged at the Bar. He referred to the invariable kindness of the Chief Justice to his brethren on the Bench, and the members of the Bar—his impartiality and his ability in every way to fill the office he has so long occupied with honour to himself and advantage to the public. The benefit of the sage counsel and advice of the Chief Justice, when the Court were assembled in the Council Chamber, for the purpose of deciding upon the judgments to be delivered in the causes which came under their consideration, was also commented on. His Lordship in conclusion expressed his earnest hope that the Chief Justice might be long spared to preside over the Bench of Nova Scotia. The learned Chief Justice then rose and acknowledged the compliment which had been paid him, and spoke of the pleasure he had always experienced in discharging the duties of his office with the countenance and support of his assistant Judges and the members of the Bar. His Lordship having resumed his seat—

The Hon. Mr. Johnston rose to offer on behalf of the Bar their congratulations to the Chief Justice, and joined in the prayer with which Mr. Justice Haliburton had closed his remarks, that his Lordship might be long spared to preside over their deliberations.

The Chief Justice then returned thanks to the Bar, and after a few remarks, concluded by wishing them all every happiness now and hereafter.—*Colonist*.

The Rev J. Roaf communicates, in a letter to the *Globe*, the information that School Section No. 1, Township of York, including the village of Yorkville, has negatived a proposal to have a Free School, preferring to give the teacher £60. a year from the public funds, and a right to charge 1s. 3d. per month for every child attending the school.

**LAKE SUPERIOR.**—The water level in Lake Superior is higher this winter than it has been for a long period. At the mouth of Ontonagon river it is sweeping over the marks of its ancient boundaries, and uprooting trees of 20 or 30 years growth. It will be interesting to note the passage of this flood from one lake to the other, until it passes into St. Lawrence.

Hunters and others will take note that the law, by an Act of last session, prohibits the killing of deer at this season, the period for hunting or killing deer having expired on the 1st. January. We mention this, as many may ignorantly be rendering themselves liable to the penalty, for violation of the law.

**OPPOSITION TO MECHANICAL IMPROVEMENTS.**—It is said that the man who first introduced a Fanning Mill into Scotland was denounced as an atheist, for getting up a gale of wind when Providence intended a calm. It is said also that the man who first introduced steam into boats as a propelling power,

was looked upon as a fit subject for an asylum."! The Tailors of this city, who have so warmly resisted the introduction of the Sewing Machine, may take a useful hint from the above.—*Examiner*.

It is reported that Ledru Rollin, and other French refugees of his party now in London, are about to remove to Canada. M. Rollin will practice his profession of a lawyer. M. Delescluze, former editor of *La Reforme*, will get his living, if possible, as a journalist, in his new home.

**PARIS.**—The population of Paris, C. W. as shown by the late census returns is as follows; males, 998; females, 907; total, 1905. Number of inhabited dwelling houses, 306. In 1844 the returns gave 408 males, and 363 females; total, 761, showing an increase of 1144 in seven years. The great natural advantages possessed by Paris for manufacturing purposes, and the well known fertility of the country surrounding it, predict its future importance as the seat of a large industrial community.

The steamer *Chief Justice* has again commenced her regular trips, as advertised.

Donald Mathieson, Esq., has been elected Warden for the County of Oxford.

By the Census of 11th January, 1852, it seems that the census of the village of Galt, is 2220 souls. Two years previous the census of the same village was only 1723, thus shewing a very rapid increase of population. The increase in the value of property, it seems, is equally great.

**MR. PLEES, the Publisher of this paper being about to take a trip Eastward, requests that all subscribers be prepared to settle their accounts when called upon.**

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

LETTERS received to Wednesday Feb. 4th, 1852: Rev. J. Fletcher, Mono, rem.; J. D. Cameron, Esq. rem. for History of Trinity College; Col. Dixon, rem. vol. 15.

## THE CHURCH.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, FEB. 5, 1852.

#### CHURCH SOCIETY OF THE DIOCESE OF TORONTO.

A General Meeting of the Members of the Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto will be held at the Church Society's House, Toronto, on WEDNESDAY, the 11th of FEBRUARY next, at Three o'clock, P.M., to receive the Report of the "Committee of Investigation" appointed to examine into the financial condition of the Society, and take such action as the purport of said Report may appear to demand.

By order of the President of the Church Society.

J. G. D. MCKENZIE, Secretary.  
Toronto, 21st January, 1852.

#### CLERICAL ELOCUTION.

"How comes it to pass," said a certain divine to David Garrick, "that actors, whose province it is to deal exclusively in fiction, are able so thoroughly to arrest the attention of their audiences, whilst we, who promulgate the most solemn and arousing realities, so frequently have to address the sleepy and inattentive?" "The reason is obvious," returned the great master of the histrionic art, "we speak fictions as if they were truths, whilst you speak truths as if they were fictions!"

It is, indeed, a matter which admits not of dispute, that, taken as a whole, our clergymen devote miserably inadequate attention to the important subject of elocution. How frequently do we find the sublime and most eloquent sentences of the Liturgy delivered in such a style of pedantic formality, or mouthing carelessness, as greatly to damp the devotional ardour of the congregation! Again, the instances are unhappily but too common, where the effect of discourses maturely digested, and eloquently composed,—discourses which could not be perused in the closet without gratification and profit,—is utterly marred by their being read in an unimpassioned sing-song tone, as if the utterers were enunciating the insipidities of an Act of Parliament, instead of "thoughts that breathe, and words that [should] burn."

Surely it is high time that effective steps were adopted to reform this most unhealthy state of things! No one will deny that the Anglican Church may securely challenge competition with the shoals of denominations which surround her, so far as the learning of her ordained servants, and the beauty and purity of her devotional formularies are concerned. Why, then, should these commanding vantage grounds be rendered so greatly unproductive, in consequence of a defect which could be so readily supplied? The art acquired by the comparatively illiterate mimic, surely is within the easy acquisition of the scholar, whose mental training has made him apt to appreciate the sublime, and pathetic, and persuasive in composition!

Let no one assert that the question which we are treating is one of light or secondary consideration. The Church has constant occasion to lament the defection of heedless children, lured from her motherly arms by empirics, who delude them into the belief that energetic declamation is

an evidence that the Holy Spirit inspires their utterance, and consequently sanctions their schism. Thousands, there is ground for believing, are rivetted in dissent, not because they could advance anything in the shape of valid objection to our doctrines or devotions, but simply because they found in the "preaching-house" that enticing warmth of delivery which they sought for in vain in the Church. Viewed in this light, the subject assumes a practical importance, which cannot easily be over-estimated.

We have been led to these reflections, at present, by the appearance of a small volume from the pen of the Rev. A. S. Thelwall, M. A. It consists of a series of exercises in elocution, to which is prefixed "a lecture on the importance of Elocution, in connection with Ministerial usefulness: delivered at King's College, on entering upon the duties of a Lecturer on Public Reading." This essay is calculated to be of the very highest utility, emanating as it does from one himself an accomplished master of the art upon which he treats. Every page conveys the assurance that you are addressed by a practical man, who has deeply at heart the importance of the subject.

Our limits will not permit us to follow the reverend lecturer through his various propositions; but, trusting that the volume will speedily be introduced into our diocese, we shall lay before our readers one or two of the topics dwelt upon.

Touching the moral importance of pulpit elocution, Mr. Thelwall observes:—

"If by judicious instruction we enable the Preacher, who else would weary himself, and almost send his hearers to sleep, by a dull and tedious monotony, to address them with such varied and pleasing, but natural and unaffected modulation of voice—appropriate to the various subjects on which he speaks, and the different feelings and emotions which he would express and excite, that he may win the untired attention of a listening congregation to the whole of the prayers in which he leads their devotions, and to the whole of the Sermon which he delivers—or if, by well timed and judicious tone and pause and emphasis, he is enabled so to impress upon his hearers the full force and meaning of the chapter of the Bible which he reads, that it answers the purposes of a faithful exposition; and if thus he can throw a flood of light upon the sacred page, to the edification and delight of many an attentive auditor,—is this to be despised? Assuredly no one will say so. And this is no mere fancy;—no conjecture of what may be. I say this with reference to facts, which have come within the sphere of my personal observation and experience. I have known instances, in which the correct and emphatic reading of a chapter has answered the purposes of an exposition or a sermon."

Alluding to the necessity of guarding against the use of provincialisms, and other peculiarities, either offensive or unintelligible, the lecturer says:—

"Will it be objected, that instances have been found, nor are they far to seek, in which energy of mind and earnestness of heart have so far prevailed, as to make a listening congregation overlook and pardon, or absolutely forget, the existence of a very large measure of such defects and peculiarities? While for example, they hung with fixed and breathless attention upon the eloquence which flowed from the lips of a Chalmers, in the broadest Scotch, and with the most ungainly delivery. We allow, most readily, that such instances may be found. Nay, we find much delight in contemplating the triumph of intellectual and christian energy over the multitude of natural and habitual defects. But who does not see, that such a combination of intellectual and Christian energy is very rare? and that defects, which were endured and overlooked in a Chalmers, would have utterly overwhelmed an ordinary man, and excluded him altogether from every reasonable prospect of usefulness? In fact, what is it but tempting and provoking the Most High to withhold that blessing, without which Paul might plant and Apollon water in vain, if we enter into the service of the sanctuary, under the burden and impediment of any defects and disabilities, which patient labor and diligent attention might have removed and overcome? The sacrifices and offerings which were presented unto God, under the Mosaic law, were in very many instances, but small, and of little value in themselves,—'a pair of turtle doves, or two young pigeons.' But he who brought them was charged to see to it, that they were perfect in their kind. The Scripture brings a high charge of profane contempt against those who have neglected to do so. 'Ye brought the torn, and the lame, and the sick; thus ye brought an offering; should I accept this of your hand? saith the Lord. But cursed be the deceiver, which hath in his flock a male, and voweth and sacrificeth unto the Lord a corrupt thing; for I am a great King, saith the Lord of Hosts, and my name is dreadful among the heathen.'—(Mal. i. 13, 14.) Does not such a passage, by plain and unquestionable inference, condemn the conduct of those who would enter into the Ministry, without taking due pains to overcome those defects, whether natural or habitual, which would interfere with their usefulness, and which would tend with too many of their hearers to bring their ministry into contempt?"

Mr. Thelwall dwells strongly upon the importance of elocutionary knowledge in a physical point of view. Many of our brethren in the ministry, we doubt not, could, with ourselves, experimentally affirm the soundness of the following remarks:—

"If, instead of wearing himself out by injudicious exertions in the space of three or four years, we teach him so to husband his strength, while his efficiency is increased, that he shall go on for twenty or thirty years with health and vigour unimpaired, and rather gaining strength than losing it, will any one say that the instruction we give is to be considered as unimportant or worthless? It cannot be doubted that bad speaking is often very injurious to the health; it often lays the foundations of fatal disease. But it may safely be affirmed, that really good speaking is an exercise decidedly healthy."

We rejoice that King's College has had the wisdom to establish such a lectureship as that held by Mr. Thelwall; and earnestly do we trust that

similar chairs will be provided in all our great seminaries of learning. May we be permitted to express a hope, that the Council of Trinity College will take the practicability of founding such a professorship into their earliest consideration? In Canada, the youthful student of divinity has but scanty models either in the Church, the Senate, or at the Bar, for the formation of a chaste and correct style of elocution; and it would be a thousand pities if our rising clergymen should be distinguished by an undignified ranting delivery on the one hand,—or a cold, marrowless insipidity of address on the other!

#### TRINITY COLLEGE.

On Monday morning the opening lecture of the Law Faculty was delivered by Professor Cameron, Q. C., to an intelligent class of students, and a considerable number of the members of the bar. The well-known eloquence and professional reputation of the learned and honourable lecturer had prepared his audience to hear the merits of a well organized course of legal instruction logically put before them. Nor were they disappointed. The manner in which he introduced his subject was most felicitous and masterly. Never have we heard Mr. Cameron speak to greater advantage. Disencumbering it of those technicalities which are generally supposed necessarily to attend all law proceedings, he made his subject tell in a manner quite attractive to the ordinary uninitiated layman. Every one went away highly gratified with so good an earnest of what was to follow. We understand that there have been twenty-five entries to the classes of this faculty.

The lectures of the other Professors are looked forward to with great pleasure. It would have been impossible for a more able faculty to have been constructed; and we anticipate great honour to Trinity College and good to the profession from their labours.

#### DIOCESAN CONVENTION MONTREAL.

On Tuesday the 22nd ult., the Clergy and Lay representatives of the Diocese of Montreal, assembled at the National School House in that City. We rejoice to learn that the attendance was numerous, and that the business was conducted in the most harmonious and solemn manner. Owing to an overlook, which we deeply regret, the report of the meeting does not appear in our impression of to-day, but we shall lay it before our readers next week.

#### METHODISM.

We have frequently had occasion to notice the tendency which Methodism exhibits to disunion, nearly as many sects now calling John Wesley their common parent, as those which shelter themselves under the Geneva cloak of Calvin. The following extract from the *New York Christian Advocate* is worthy of notice, as illustrative of the above proposition:—

"Let it be distinctly understood that the doctrine, that the General Conference has the power of splitting up the Church into an indefinite number of independent Churches, is now the orthodox creed of Southern Methodism. They formed that creed to meet an emergency, and now they must keep it for general purposes. They have removed the barriers in the way of divisions without number, and the slightest occasions will bring them on."

We may only add that the above-mentioned periodical is the leading Methodist organ of the Northern States.

#### IMPORTANT QUESTION.

We learn from the *Banner of the Cross* that an important question will shortly come before the Supreme Court of Massachusetts. A Romish Priest having exercised the suffrage at a late election in Boston, his vote has been challenged and protested against on the ground, that having sworn allegiance both temporal and spiritual to a foreign potentate, the ecclesiastic in question cannot become a citizen of the United States.

The Rev. W. C. Clarke requests that for the future, all letters and papers for him, be addressed to Packenham.

We beg to call attention to the advertisement of Mr. Heakes, which appears in another column.

#### Communication.

##### To the Editor of the Church.

REV. SIR,—I left home to spend the holidays in the Indian woods, at the kind invitation of some friends there. Christmas morning came, bitterly cold, and at eleven o'clock we repaired to the church, a beautiful stone building on a rising ground. The interior was tastefully decorated with evergreens and flowers; the handywork of some of the Indian women. The flowers were ingeniously fastened amongst the branches, producing quite a pretty effect. The church was densely crowded, and many were obliged to stand during the service. I was particularly struck with the devout behaviour of the poor Indians; and although the sermon was entirely in English, the interpreter being in affliction, and unable to officiate,—they appeared attentive, and anxious to understand what their pastor said; but it was with a heavy sigh and bitter regret I witnessed the different bearing of their white brethren. But I