

This church will prove a great blessing to such of our French Canadian brethren, as now find themselves strangers in a strange country, and who, alas! are too often compelled to exclaim as of old, the sweet singer of Israel, "Woe is me, that am constrained to dwell with Meshech, and have my habitation amongst the tents of Kedar."

THE LATE FIRE.—We have been requested to return thanks to the Captain and Company of the Queen Fire Engine, for their spirited exertions on the night of the fire, to which, in a great measure, the safety of the Catholic Irish Orphan Asylum is to be attributed.

We thankfully acknowledge the receipt of £4 1s. 3d., from the Rev. Mr. Harkin, Kingston. Also, £1 5s. from Rev. Mr. Timlin, Coburg.

Our Quebec Correspondent's communication will be inserted in our next.

TO "BRITANNICUS."

Dear Britannicus,—You write well, but not wisely, or you would not have fallen into the error of confounding the Maronites, who derive their name from St. Maron, the cotemporary of St. Chrysostom, with the heretics of the same name, who were called after John Maron, the intrusive Patriarch of Antioch, in the VIII. century.

Read, my dear Britannicus, a little work published by Faustus Maïron, a Maronite himself, in 1679, entitled "Dissertatio de origine, nomine ac religione Maronitarum," so may you be preserved from the kindred error of confounding the Jacobites of the East, with the gallant men who in the middle of the XVIII. century shed their best blood on the moor of Culloden; or of mistaking the author of Watt's Hymns, for the celebrated improver of the steam engine.

Reflect an instant, dear Britannicus, and it will surely strike you, that had the Maronites derived their distinctive appellation from the heretic of Antioch, instead of from the Saint, whose relics, Gibbon informs us, "were disputed by the rival cities of Apamea and Emesa," they certainly would not have retained it at the present day, when they profess to be members of the Catholic Church—just as you, yourselves, will be heartily ashamed of those foul appellations, Lutheran and Calvinist, when the happy day arrives, on which you will be admitted members of the Church of Christ.

We are very sorry for it, but we must again correct you dear Britannicus.

The ceremonies used by the Maronites and by the Latin branches of the Catholic Church, do indeed vary, but the mode of worship is identically the same—consisting, with both, in the daily offering to the Most High God, the same sacrifice, which was once offered up on Mount Calvary. Would you know what is proved by the difference of the ceremonies, whilst the substance, or sacrifice, remains the same? Simply this—That the substance is older than the elder of the two different forms. Does it surprise you that there are different Liturgies in use in the Catholic Church? Have you yet to learn that there have been many different Liturgies? The Coptic Liturgy, the Mozarabic, and that of St. Ambrose, still in use at Milan. The substance, if not the form of all these Liturgies, is Apostolic: in the same way as the Gospel of St. Matthew, and that of St. John,—the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians, and the catholic epistle of St. James, are all considered Apostolic, though they differ from one another in form.

In form, the Nicene Creed is not Apostolic,—at least we have never been able to find the word "Omoousion," or Consubstantial, in any of the writings of the Apostles, and yet, perhaps, you will, yourself, admit that the doctrine of the Consubstantiality of the Father with the Son, as well as the Procession of the Holy Spirit from both, are Apostolic Doctrines.

Good bye, my dear Britannicus,—take care of yourself, and don't write too much,—only think what a loss you would be.

Yours, fondly,
LAICUS.

29th August.

To the Editor of the True Witness and Catholic Chronicle.

DEAR SIR,—The enclosed is a copy of a letter I sent four weeks ago to the editor of the Montreal Witness, and which he has taken no notice of, whatever, although three numbers of his paper have been issued since. May I request you to insert it in your next number? and oblige yours, truly,

A SUBSCRIBER.

Montreal, 28th August, 1850.

To the Editor of the Montreal Witness.

DEAR SIR,—In a late number of your paper, (22nd ultimo,) you say that in consequence of the influence of Popery in Lower Canada, "the habitant's bread is black, and his horses have degenerated," &c.

The enemies of Catholicism have ever been in the habit of raising frivolous objections against it, for want of cogent argument;—and in no instance, I might say, is this truth more manifest, than in the present case. In the first place, I deny that the

poverty and other evils under which Lower Canada may labour, is owing to the influence of Popery. Again, poverty is no disgrace. It is no crime to eat black bread; and if you think it is, how can you look at English pauperism without blushing, whilst you are well aware that the words *pauper* and *poor-house* were never known in England in Catholic times.

It is not my purpose to enter into detail respecting the good or bad influence of Catholicism, but merely to reprove you for having given your opinion too hastily, and without taking a view of both sides of the question; and also to make you sensible that you acted rashly in inserting in your paper the article alluded to.

Catholicism has never had the effect of demoralising the human race: not so with Protestantism.

The journals published in Scotland and England, daily furnish us with the most humiliating examples of the immorality of the people. Out of the numberless extracts which I could make from the Scotch and English papers, I will content myself with the following, from the *Glasgow Chronicle*, of December last:—

"WANTED, AS A WET NURSE,

By a respectable family in town, a healthy UNMARRIED young woman, from the Country—milk not more than four weeks old.

"Apply to Messrs. William Geddes & Co., Chemists and Druggists, 85 Argyll Street.

"Glasgow, 18th December, 1849."

Now, sir, although the Canadian *habitant* may have to eat black bread and ride on a small horse—and unfortunate Catholic Ireland be beggared by centuries of oppression, still, thank God, neither Lower Canada nor Ireland has yet been corrupted to such an extent, as to tolerate the offering of a premium on the immorality of her daughters. Nor can you find in any Catholic country in the world instances of *wives poisoning their husbands, husbands poisoning their wives, and parents poisoning their children, for the "fees" granted by "Burial Societies," as we see repeatedly by the English papers.*

By inserting this letter in an early number of your paper, you will be doing an act of justice to the French Canadians, and much obliging a

CONSTANT READER.

Montreal, 2nd August, 1850.

ANOTHER DESTRUCTIVE CONFLAGRATION.

About half-past ten o'clock on last Friday night, a fire commenced on the premises of Mr. Shepherd, Livery Stable Keeper, in Craig Street; and, in a very few minutes, spread, with inconceivable rapidity, among the wooden houses surrounding his yard. The fire, aided by a brisk breeze raged with fearful energy, and had, in half-an-hour extended along Craig Street to the Main Street of the St. Lawrence Suburbs, and up the Main Street and St. Charles Borromée Street to Vitre Street, on both sides of these Streets—destroying in its progress, Mr. De Chantal's block of buildings, Mr. McIntosh's Bindery, Mr. McPherson's Music Store, Mr. Close's, Plumber and Machinists' establishment, and many other valuable properties on Craig and St. Charles Borromée Streets. On reaching the Main Street, up which, as far as Vitre Street, it extended on both sides, the scene was most appalling: those who had removed their furniture to that locality, seeing how ineffectual had been their efforts to save it, were with redoubled effort, seen in all directions carrying what was most profitable, to the Champ de Mars: men, women and children, who had hardly escaped with their lives, and with no covering beyond their night-dresses, were distractedly running about in search of shelter. Some succeeded in placing their furniture and goods in safety on the Champ de Mars, but, we regret to say, the great majority of the sufferers lost their all—not only what they had been forced to abandon in their houses, but what they had, in the first instance, removed to the houses of their neighbors, in the hope that the conflagration would not reach them.

After destroying, on St. Charles Borromée Street, the houses occupied by Mr. Gillespie, Mr. Smith, Mr. Price, Mr. Shanley, Mr. Kelly, Mrs. McGregor, Mr. Reynolds, and their neighbors on either side of the Street, the fire spread to Vitre Street, and in less than half-an-hour, the whole property on both sides of the Main Street from Vitre to Craig Street, was one uninterrupted blazing mass. The residence of the Mayor, at the corner of Craig and the Main Street, being detached, and of cut stone with a tin roof and iron shutters, was alone saved, by the exertions of the firemen, of all the surrounding houses. No human power could now foretell how far the raging element might extend, the neighborhood being surrounded with wooden buildings. On the arrival of the Military, after consultation with the Mayor and Magistrates, it was decided that the only hope of arresting its progress was by blowing up with gunpowder some of the intervening houses. By this time the fire had reached St. Dominique Street, and speedily both sides of this Street, in the range of the fire, were reduced to ashes. One of our City Councillors, Dr. Hall, now took upon himself the responsibility of authorizing Captain Wright, of the Royal Artillery, to blow up the range of brick buildings in Perrault's Lane—in line with St. Gabriel Street,—and thus, if possible, to prevent the farther extension of the fire to the eastward. This, however, from some mismanagement, we believe, in arranging the fuse, was not so promptly effected as the circumstances demanded, and before the building was laid low, the wind having subsided, the conflagration was happily arrested by the exertions of the firemen.

We believe that about one hundred houses have been utterly destroyed, besides many partially injured and rendered temporarily uninhabitable.—*Herald of 26th inst.*

POLICE COURT.

THURSDAY, August 24, 1850.

THE LATE CASE OF STABBING.—The wounded man was yesterday still in too dangerous a condition to allow of his evidence being taken; but two witnesses were examined at the Police Office on the charge against Walker, the accused. From the statement of these persons, it appeared that Walker and another man were together at a tavern kept by a man named Johnson, in Commissioner Street, on the night of the 27th; that these two persons there found a cabman, whom they engaged to take them to a house of ill-fame. The cabman left them there, with the understanding that he was to return. On coming back, he found they had left the house, and was told they had had some beer for which they had not paid. This man then returned to Johnson's tavern, where he found the two men quarrelling with Bennett (the man now wounded) about the fare due to him for driving them back. Johnson eventually turned them all out, and Bennett and the first cabman, named St. Germain, then again demanded their money. One of their passengers then ran away, and a struggle began between Bennett and Walker, the latter of whom inflicted several blows on both cabmen with a stick. The witness, St. Germain, then, at Bennett's request, went to look for the police; and on coming back from the Station-house, found Bennett on the ground and Walker upon him. Walker cried out "open the door, Munro," and Mr. Munro, who keeps a tavern in the neighborhood, opened his door and took Walker in. St. Germain then raised Bennett, and found that he was wounded in several places. Prisoner was remanded.

A man named Antoine Robert was committed for trial, charged with stealing two stoves at the late fire.—*Herald.*

SUICIDE.—We deeply regret to learn that Dr. Blake, Surgeon of the 20th Regt., now in garrison, deprived himself of life, yesterday morning, by cutting his throat with a razor.—The facts, as related to us, are, that for some days back, Dr. Blake had been indisposed and unable to attend to his duties, and that, in his house in Durham Place, about three o'clock, yesterday morning, he desired his servant to go up stairs and warm some beef-tea for him: so soon as the servant left the room, it would appear that he (Dr. B.) went into the adjoining dressing room, and taking a razor from its case, too effectually committed the dreadful act, which he only survived for a few hours—during which time, however, he was collected, and acknowledged that he had fallen by his own hand. An Inquest was held upon his body yesterday. The jury, after hearing the evidence of several of the friends and attendants of the deceased, and the medical testimony of Drs. Seaman of the 23rd and Cole of the 20th Regts., returned a verdict of suicide, committed under the influence of temporary insanity. Dr. Blake was, we understand, although eccentric in his manners and habits, much esteemed in the Regiment.—*Herald 23rd.*

ARRIVAL

OF THE
Steamship "America" at Halifax.

[From the Montreal Herald.]

{ Halifax Telegraph Office,
Tuesday Evening—7 o'clock.

The Overland Mail from India, as we learn by a telegraphic despatch, arrived at London, at 1 o'clock, p.m., on Saturday, just previous to the sailing of the America. We have no particulars.

Parliament has been prorogued by the Queen. The National Assembly has adjourned, and the attention of the French nation is now principally occupied by the progress of the President, through the provinces. With some few exceptions, he appears to have been very favorably received by the people.

Some further skirmishing has taken place between the Danes and the Holsteiners in which the latter appear to have come off victorious.

There are rumours of an approaching settlement of the quarrel under the auspices of Russia, England and France.

Copenhagen letters report the King of Denmark's left-handed marriage with a dressmaker.

Garner & Co.'s Circular, August 16, says—Our quotations for every article show a slight reduction and at to-day's market the business was very trifling, with prices tending in favor of the buyers.

Continental advices are far from satisfactory.

ENGLAND.

The chief feature of English news, is the Queen's speech upon the prorogation of Parliament.

Commenting upon the business of the session just closed, a leading London paper says, the Ministerial management of the Legislature has not been very sagacious, very systematic or very business-like. The reasons of this may be traced in a considerable degree to the second rate qualifications of the Cabinet; but these reasons do not supply the whole truth. The Whig Ministry is not selected by the House of Commons, but decidedly forced into office by circumstances; not a desire, but a disaster gave them place. In any case they would not have been good governors. They have not the intellect to command respect, nor a policy to rivet attention; but, because the House of Commons were not their constituents, they had to follow the House, for the House would not follow them.

Among the more important bills introduced by the Ministry, which have fallen through, is the Jews Emancipation Bill, the Lord Lieutenantcy of Ireland Abolition Bill, and the Marriage Bill.

FRANCE.

The Assembly was prorogued on the 10th inst.,

and the Ministers have now all things their own way. Most of the members have left Paris, and altogether, though more peaceful, Paris is less gay than it was some months ago.

Previous to separating, the Mountain party presented the public with their promised report on the parliamentary proceedings of the session. This document has become the great topic of the day. It is drawn up in a style remarkably free from the common defects of inflation and violence. It is signed by 68 members.

In some respects, the President has not been so fortunate in his present, as in his late tour. At Lyons the people were more than apathetic. There was no address and no public rejoicing, and the town council refused the supplies for his suite.

NEW YORK MARKETS.

August 29.

Ashes—Pots buoyant with fair demand; sales 100 brls at \$6.12, and 50 do Pearls at \$6. Flour—Fair demand for western and state for the East, and steady enquiry for fresh ground state for exports. Canadian in fair request for exports, with sales at \$4.56; sales domestic 5,400 brls at \$4.25 a \$4.44 for common to straight state; \$4.44 a \$4.56 for favorite state, \$4.62 for new Ohio and state, \$4.37 a \$4.62 for old Michigan, \$4.68 a \$5 for new do, \$5.25 a \$5.50 for old and new Genesee. Wheat—Supply large and market heavy. Genesee held at \$1.10 a \$1.12. Canadian, dull and nominal at \$1.4 a \$1.8. Southern plenty and rather lower; sales 1500 bushels red North Carolina on private terms. Corn plenty and rather easier; sales 30,000 bush at 61 a 62 for western mixed, 62 for yellow and 62 a 63c for round do. Pork—A disposition to press sales, and market easier; sales 700 brls at \$10.25 a \$10.37 for Mess and \$8.25 a \$8.37 for Prime. Lard heavy; sales 150 brls Prime at 6 1/2c.

Died.

In this city, on the 27th instant, Sylvia, Matilda, Margaret, wife of Mr. Alexis Trudeau, and for many years principal of a Seminary for the education of young ladies. The duty of announcing her death is a melancholy one to us, for we knew and appreciated her virtues, and we are quite sure that the announcement will call forth the tear of sorrow from many an eye in places far remote. It is now better or about thirty years since this lamented lady entered the fold of Catholicity, and her life since then has been a practical illustration of catholic morality and catholic piety. Her death was, we are assured, a happy one, for she departed this world with her hands full of good works. It will be long indeed before the void which her death creates in society can be filled up, for in the cause of charity she was indelugible, and her zeal for religion knew no bounds. She is gone, we trust, to never-ending happiness, but her death leaves many a heart sad, and some, we well know, almost inconsolate.

M. A. S.

In New York, on Friday morning, the 16th inst., MARY, relict of the late James Sadtler, of Rose Green, County Tipperary, Ireland, and mother of D. & J. Sadtler, Catholic publishers of this city. Her remains were taken to Rev. Mr. Maguire's Church, Westchester, for interment. May she rest in peace. Amen.

DRY GOODS.

"TO SAVE IS TO GAIN."

W. McMANAMY,

No. 206, Notre Dame Street,

RESPECTFULLY begs leave to inform the Citizens of Montreal and surrounding Country, that he has on sale a cheap and well-selected Stock of DRY GOODS, suitable for the present and coming seasons, which he is determined will be sold at the lowest remunerating price for Cash.

GENTLEMEN'S COLLARS,

BOYS' SHIRTS,

CHILDREN'S DRESSES, (quite new styles.)

W. McM., availing himself of the advantage of Cash purchases, at auction, feels warranted in stating that he can sell his goods twenty per cent. below the ordinary prices.

N. B.—No Goods sold for anything but what they really are.

Wanted, an experienced young man, for the above business, who speaks both languages fluently.

Montreal, 20th August, 1850.

CATHOLIC PRAYER BOOKS.

JOHN McCOY has JUST RECEIVED a good ASSORTMENT of CATHOLIC PRAYER BOOKS, among which are the following:—

St. Vincent's Manual, containing a selection of Prayers and Devotional Exercises, originally prepared for the use of the Sisters of Charity, bound in velvet, papier maché, morocco, and imitation morocco.

The Christians Guide to Heaven. Child's Prayer and Hymn Book, for the use of Catholic Sunday Schools.

The Catholic Christian's Companion to Prayer and the Sacraments, and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, &c., &c.

The Chapel Companion, containing pious devotions of Mass, Morning and Evening Prayers, the Litanies, and Vespers for Sundays.

Gems of Devotion: a selection of Prayers for the use of Catholics.

The Daily Exercise. The Following of Christ, by Thomas a Kempis.

For sale by

JOHN McCOY,

9, Great St. James Street. Montreal, Aug. 23th, 1850.

JOHN PHELAN'S,
CHOICE TEA, SUGAR, AND COFFEE STORE;

No. 1 St. PAUL STREET,
Near Dalhousie Square.