

T. was in his cabin with his bride, trying to keep up her spirits. Presently came a deluge of rain and sea—the companion door opened to let down the cook, an old coloured man; he said it was worse than he had ever seen it, and the Captain had ordered all the crew aft and the fore-castle to be nailed up. In this interim, a fearful one, I got my Prayer Book and found how specially applicable are the beautiful prayers our Church has provided for such awful occasions: "Save, Lord, or we perish! Oh! send thy word of command to rebuke the raging winds and the roaring sea."

I kept up bravely enough during the fearful scene, but it was after, when all was still and quiet again, that the tumult of the mind subsided and gave place to those calmed recollections of a fearful peril past, to which nature more easily gives way, and with a fearful sick head ache I was obliged, at three o'clock in the afternoon, to return to my wet and wretched berth. I have said little more than to allude to my feelings during the agonizing minutes that ensued between the moment of the vessel being thrown on her beam ends, and her righting after the masts were cut away. No, I commenced this paragraph with an attempt to explain them, but even at this length of time, the recollections even of those moments are so agonizing that I cannot dwell on them. May He who saved me, bless them to my good. God gave me much strength and courage.

Colonial.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF BYTOWN AND THE HON. T. MCKAY.

Bytown, November 29, 1850. Honourable Sir,—I have learned on my return from Europe, that I have been the object of your attack, at the object of your bitterest censure, but you were not content to judge my acts, but even to scrutinize my intentions. The words of a man of your rank have always a certain gravity, and were I to remain silent, the public might believe your accusations, it is therefore my duty to answer. I do not deny your right of discussing before the House everything which, in your opinion, tends to the interest of the Province, since it is for this purpose that you have been called to the Legislative Council, and drawing upon me false suspicions. You have done this, Sir, in a place where I could not answer, and at a time when I was about two thousand leagues from Canada. Was this a generous act on your part? Permit me, Sir, to enter now into the close examination of your spurious statements. You have said that scarcely half a dozen of Indians were to be found on the Gatineau. You have deceived the House. I have in my possession the names of one hundred heads of families belonging to the Algonquin Tribe, or to the Tetes de Boule Tribe, who most earnestly beg for a priest to come and live with them on the land promised by the Government. Their petition was handed me by more than forty Indians together, and certainly that petition did not contain the names of all the Indians interested in the matter.—How comes it then that this Indian affair, so much perverted and so badly represented by you, should serve you as a theme to cry out against Jesuits, Jesuits' Cloak, and a set of Foreigners, who wish for nothing

else but to enrich themselves, at the expense of the public. Although you did not designate me by name, yet the veil you have endeavoured to cover me with was of such transparency, that one can easily guess whom you meant.

The language you used, Sir, was beneath you, and not becoming your rank; I wonder you should have adopted it. A man in my position can by no means be attacked by injurious insinuations which seem to be inspired only by a spirit of bigotry and fanaticism. Some few fanatics might feel satisfied with such doings, but not so with an attentive observer, he seeks for proofs and you give none. To your examination I leave my conduct during the six years I have been in Canada, and I defy you to find out a shadow of justice and of truth, in the accusations you have thrown upon me. Would you have the courage to stand the same trial?

When I supported the petition made by the Indians to obtain a certain portion of land to be at their disposal. I did not seek for anything else than the interest of those poor Indians who can no longer find in the woods nor in the lakes means of subsistence, since every year sees a great many perishing with hunger. My ardent wish was, and is yet, to make them partakers of the benefits of civilization, to which they have a just right as well as the rest of mankind; and if a prompt and timely assistance is not rendered them, they will very soon disappear from the face of that land of Canada of which they had been the first proprietors. As they are Catholics and in my diocese I have believed, and I still believe, that their Bishop ought to be their guardian both for the temporal and the spiritual—that their interest requires it, and were they consulted they would confirm heartily my assertion.

I had besides the right of expressing my opinion on that grave question, since I was specially requested to do so. The plan adopted by Government in this affair may turn contrary to my convictions, but whatever may be its decision, I will respect it as that of a Judge, and I will the more readily and joyfully adopt it, the more I find it advantageous to the suffering Indians.

Now let me inform you, Honourable Sir, that it is my intention to have this letter published in the public papers.

I have the honour to be, Honourable Sir, Your most obedient servant, JOSEPH EUGENS, Bishop of Bytown.

To the Hon. T. McKay, Legislative Councillor.

Rideau Hall, December 5, 1850

My Lord Bishop.—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your lordship's letter of the 29th ult., by which I notice you are highly indignant at the part which I took in the public debate, regarding the large tract of land you petitioned for upon the Gatineau River.

I pass by the uncourteous and undignified expressions used by your Lordship, as they neither carry argument nor refutation relative to the question at issue; on the contrary they only tend to show that you are sorely annoyed, and to assuage your disappointment, you vent your ire against an humble individual like myself.

I am aware, my Lord, that it is a serious matter to come under the ban of a Dignitary in your Church holding the rank you do—but you will judge very erroneously of my character, if you imagine that your frowns ever deter me from doing my duty to the public, in accordance with the dictates of my own conscience.

The question regarding the lands now in consideration comes before the public as a public matter; in this view I treated it; and found your name as the prime mover interwoven with it. Was it because you happened to be, as you state, six thousand miles from Canada, at that time, that I should sit quiet in my place in the Legislature of my country, and allow such an act of public spoliation to be consummated without raising my voice against it? Strange reason this would be, indeed, my Lord Bishop!

I am as desirous as your lordship can possibly be, to benefit the poor Indians. In the mode of doing so, you and I differ very widely. Your lordship is doubtless aware that there is a peculiar office connected with the Government of this country, called the Indian Department, kept up at a heavy expense to the country, solely for the purpose of looking after the temporal affairs of the Indians. To my apprehension, this bureau is the proper guardian for the Indians in secular affairs; your Lordship may, if you so please, take the spiritual affairs of the Indians in your safe keeping—but not both.

Your lordship charges me of making charges against you without proving them; this is not true. I required nothing further in corroboration of what I stated in Parliament, than your own written documents. Permit me to quote from your letter to Mr. Buchette of the Crown Land Department, dated the 6th May last. You write—

"The Indians being considered minors, they could not obtain patents in their own names. I expressed to you my desire to represent the Episcopal Corporation of Bytown. The Legislature has invested it with the right of holding certain lands belonging to different localities which are not legally erected into separate parishes.

"It would seem to me, therefore to be natural that the land in question should be placed in this category for the Indians being all (Roman) Catholics, the Bishop becomes the natural guardian even of their temporal interests."

Now, my Lord, your wishes are very plainly expressed there. As to your intentions, they are best known to yourself.

My spurious accusations, as your Lordship is pleased to call them, are just this—I charge you with endeavouring in a surreptitious manner to get possession of 160,000 acres of wild land in your own name, as the natural guardian of the Indians; there are no proofs required on my part to maintain this—your own writing proves it. The public my Lord, would be more convinced by your letter, if you had refuted any portion of my statement, instead of filling it with unclerical recriminations, which have no point.

Your Lordship in a sneering manner accuses me of bigotry. I do not understand the word in the sense you seem to imply, but no doubt you know the meaning of it better than I do. If to be a bigot means my opposition to your wishes to become a very extensive landowner at the expense of the public, I shall of course plead guilty to the charge.

On this, as on every other public question, I shall always act without fear or favour; and furthermore, I beg to apprise your Lordship that I shall oppose by every means in my power, both in and out of Parliament, any grant of lands to any religious body whatever, under the flimsy plea of holding it in trust for the In-

dians. Too much of this has been done already, which the country will some day deeply deplore.

In conclusion, my Lord, I beg to say, that as I am amenable to a higher tribunal than your Lordship for my public acts, it is not my intention to take any further notice of any communications through the public journals upon the subject.

I have the honour to be, your Lordship's, Obedient humble servant, THOMAS MCKAY.

To his Lordship the Roman Catholic Bishop of Bytown.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL AT COBourg.—On Friday last a private examination of the pupils attending the above school, in this town, took place before their parents and friends. It proved highly satisfactory. The translation of Boughall in the *Edipus Rex* of Sophocles, was a most creditable performance, and displayed a well grounded knowledge of the meter, and other parts of the Greek Drama. After this followed various examinations in the Latin Classics, in which the new works in Latin composition by the Rev. K. Arnold were taken as the text books. After this the boys were questioned upon the elementary parts of natural philosophy, geography, and other simpler branches of knowledge, with all of which they evinced an intimate acquaintance. The studies pursued at the above school are mostly of a practical nature, and so far from being confined to the Classics, take within their range all those ordinary branches of learning which have direct application to the daily occurrences of life. The examination being over, the boys adjourned to the Venerable the Archdeacon's, where they partook of a lunch kindly provided for them.—After lunch Dr. Bethune addressed them, expressing his satisfaction at the progress they had made, and at seeing about him the members of what he styled the Church Grammar School of Cobourg. The boys then presented their teacher, the Rev. Mr. Jessopp, with an elegantly bound volume of Shakspeare as a mark of their esteem. The Venerable the Archdeacon has done a great deal for education in this district, more perhaps, than any other man in it. He has, in establishing the above school, conferred a very great favour on the public, and one which we are sure will be appreciated. Aware that indifferent schools make indifferent scholars, his aim has always been to make the system of instruction the best that circumstances would permit. In carrying out this system, he has secured for the Church Grammar School at Cobourg the services of a gentleman who is not only a man of learning (being a gold medalist in the Toronto University) but a person thoroughly skilled in the art of instruction, and possessed of the rare faculty of imparting his knowledge to the young.—Star.

ELECTRO BIOLOGY.—The following letter from Dr. Marsden, of Quebec, appears in the *Morning Chronicle* of that city:—"Having been interrogated lately, almost hourly, respecting a surgical operation performed last week under the influence of Electro Biology, I will briefly state the case for the information of your readers at a distance as well as here. On Wednesday last, William Corrigan, farmer, of Valcartier, came to town for the purpose of having a tumor removed from the lower jaw bone, by the knife. Having great dread of being unable to bear the operation, which is a most painful one, I placed him under the influence of Electro Biology, and on Thursday morning, whilst in that state, the operation was performed by Dr. James Douglas in the presence of a number of persons (professional and others) without the patient feeling the very slightest pain. The operation consisted, in few words, in cutting and sawing out a large portion of the lower jaw bone, and this was effected without pain, and almost without loss of blood. On the patient being told the operation was completed, he rose up briskly, without help, and walked to his bedroom, declaring that 'he felt no pain at all, although he knew and saw all that that was doing, and knew that a tooth was drawing, and saw and heard the sawing out of the bone.' There was no unconsciousness or loss of memory, or sleep, or stupor, or want of feeling in any part of the body excepting the part operated on, where alone the feeling was completely destroyed. In conclusion, I am convinced that Electro biology is destined to become one of the greatest blessings of the age; and its use in nervous and other painful diseases, under judicious management, will be omnipotent, as well as in surgical operations. I am also of opinion from my own private experiments that the Voltaic influence or impression is much more extensively applicable, than the public experiments which we have witnessed would lead us to suppose. For such as desire more minute particulars touching this case, I refer them to the forthcoming number of the 'Montreal British American Medical and Physical Journal,' where it will be found reported at length. I am, Sir, &c., W. MARSDEN, M.D., No. 6, Anne Street.

Quebec, Dec. 15, 1850.

JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS.—We announced last week that J. G. Spragge, Esq., was appointed one of Her Majesty's Vice-Chancellors for Upper Canada, vacant by the resignation of Mr. Jameson. We now learn that Andrew W. Buell, Esq., Clerk of the Crown in the Court of Common Pleas, has been appointed Master in Chancery, in room of Mr. Spragge. We further learn that Lawrence Seyden Esq., has been appointed Clerk of the Common Pleas in the place of Mr. Buell, transferred to the Court of Chancery.—Globe.

The *British Whig* says that the thermometer was 20° below zero at Kingston, on the morning of the 24th; and that the streets of Kingston were filled up with pyramids of snow, thereby preventing the mails from proceeding east or west.

THE PRESCOTT AND BYTOWN RAILWAY.—The *Bytown Gazette* states, that Messrs. Walker & Chamberlin, who built a large portion of the Ogdensburg railroad, and have been otherwise extensively engaged on public works in the United States and Canada, have offered to take the contract for building the road from Prescott to Bytown upon the lowest terms, when the survey is completed, and to take twenty five per cent., or one-fourth of the whole *st. ck.* They propose to send a person on the survey with the Engineer employed by the Company, if it should appear probable that the road will be commenced, and upon his agreeing in the correctness of the estimates then made, they will take the contracts, at the rates then decided on.

FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE.—A shanty, in a remote part of the 2nd concession of Charlottenburgh, occupied by a party of men engaged in manufacturing Black Salts, for S. Baker, Esq., was burned down on the night of Thursday last, the 12th inst., and sad to relate, three of the occupants were destroyed in the building. It appears that two or three of the party departed for the Front, on the afternoon of Thursday,

for provisions, &c., and on returning next morning were horrified to find nothing but the smouldering embers of their late habitation and the calcined remains of their relatives and friends. It is supposed that, as the night was severe and blustry, the ill-fated men had made a stronger fire than usual, the hut thereby becoming ignited, and that the inmates were suffocated in their sleep. Their names were Moses and Peter Laplante, brothers, and John Boyeau, all sober, industrious men.—*Cornwall Freeholder.*

A CRASH!—FALL OF PART OF THE HORSE SHOE FALL.—On Tuesday evening the 10th of December, our citizens were startled on hearing a loud and terrific noise, resembling as near as we can describe it, the heavy booming of artillery, in quick succession, which shook the earth around us very sensibly. We did not know for a time what could be the cause of such a fearful noise: and for a few minutes were thrown into amazement, supposing that Miller's Millennium was at hand. It proved to be a part of the Horse Shoe Fall on the Canada side, which had fallen, carrying away about ten rods of the rock in length, by four in width. The canal boat, which has lodged for the last few months on the brink of the rock which has fallen, and which has excited the admiration of all who beheld it, was also carried over with the rock. It is now in the Whirlpool, two miles down the river, dancing attendance to the freaks of that great malstrom. The crash occurred about 7 o'clock in the evening; and it is indeed providential that it fell at such an hour, and at this season of the year. Had it been in the summer when so many thousands of strangers are here, there undoubtedly would have been persons crushed to death; for it is precisely the spot where so many continually passed, and where so many have stood to contemplate the grandeur of nature, and behold the waters of the mighty Cataract above them rushing terrifically over their heads, that is now filled with the huge masses of rock which have fallen from above. The loss of this portion of the rock has not in the least diminished in appearance the view of the Falls; but has, in our opinion, added to the scene, and looks grander and more sublime, if possible than ever.—*Niagara Falls Iris.*

POLICE OFFICE, TORONTO.—Great complaints are made of the inequality of the attendance of the City Magistrates at the police office. As one instance, among many others, it may be mentioned that the stage driver whose inhumanity in leaving a passenger, who was drunk, lying on the snow, was referred to in our last paper, attended at the office to explain the transaction, which, as previously stated, was grossly discreditable to him. He was accompanied by Mr. Miller, the stage proprietor, whose knowledge of the occurrence was derived from the report in the *Patriot* and the *Globe*, and who naturally desired to express his disapproval of everything like carelessness on the part of his servants. After remaining some hours, and in the absence of any Magistrate, the chief police-officer allowed the driver to depart, as there was no specific charge on which to detain him. It is to be regretted as well on Mr. Miller's account as on that of the public, that the driver's version of the affair was not made in Court. We learn, however, that he admits having placed and left the passenger, in a state of intoxication, on the foot path against the post-office; but he states that he did so only temporarily, until he stabled his horses—that he sent a fellow passenger to the police office to apprise the officers of the circumstances—and that on his own return, finding the passenger gone, he concluded that he had nothing further to do in the matter.

THE ASYLUM.—In compliance with a custom which has prevailed since its opening, the unfortunate inmates of this establishment were provided with a sumptuous dinner on Christmas day. The entertainment took place in one of the principal corridors, from the ceiling and walls of which evergreen festoons were tastefully suspended. At either end of the gallery, a long table was prepared—that at the east end being for the females, that at the west for the men. Both were loaded with edibles of the most solid kind: beef, roast and boiled, turkeys, geese, and so on; while at reasonable distances, were placed plum-pudding of no ordinary richness. At half-past one, the patients, numbering altogether upwards of 200, sat down to their respective tables, at which the officers of the asylum officiated as carvers. Each of the patients had a knife and fork and a glass of ale. The demeanour of the men—mad men—was as collected and orderly as though they were part of the most rational section of humanity; in many instances we noticed attention to the small ordinary courtesies of life; and the whole evinced decidedly less tendency to gluttony, than is observable at the dinner table of a public and promiscuous assemblage. The ale appeared to be the article most in request. The females, though generally well conducted, were not quite so peaceable. They were more fastidious and talkative—apparently more disposed to find fault—than their 'lords and masters' in the adjoining apartment. In reply to an observation to this effect, the matron remarked, that "whether sane or insane, ladies were proverbially most troublesome." (The judgment is a lady's, not ours.) The whole entertainment exhibited a degree of discipline which could not fail to awaken feelings of astonishment and pleasure in those who, for the first time, became acquainted with the arrangements of a modern asylum.—*Patriot.*

The City Corporation have framed a Bill to amend the Market Law, by permitting the sale of fresh pork and venison in small quantities, throughout the city.

THE RAILROAD.—We understand that the arrangements for the Ontario, Simcoe and Huron Railroad, are now finally completed, and the contract signed. Messrs. Storey, De Witt and Seymour, arrived in town on Tuesday, after a week's detention on the road, owing to the snow storms of the last few days. They were met in this city by the Directors, and Messrs. Armon, McConkey, Lount, and Lane, representing the Simcoe County Council, with authority to secure the payment of the £50,000 voted by the County. All the conditions of the contract having been fully adjusted, the Contractors and Chief-Engineer started yesterday morning, with the Simcoe deputation, on their way to Barrie, on a visit of inspection; the survey will be commenced at as early a date as the weather will allow. So far all has gone on admirably, and we apprehend that even the most sceptical of our fellow-citizens will now admit that the Railroad is a "great fact," and that ere long, our streets and highways will be enlivened by the loud snorting of the "iron horse," and the cry of "all aboard" will quicken into unwonted activity, our heretofore slow-going travellers. Soon may it arrive, we say, and success to the Railroad!!!—*Patriot.*