

the rising of the Court. At the same Assizes the man name Francis Bear, charged with the murder of William Barrie, was convicted and has been sentenced to undergo the death penalty on the 17th of May. His wife was acquitted.

Mr. Daniel Clarke's new saw mill, Chinguacousy, was destroyed by fire on Saturday week last. The *Colonist* says that the mill cost £1,200, and was insured to about half that amount.

It seems Cobourg harbour is becoming an important fishing station. The value of the fish caught in it last year under the old system of bait was about £3,000. This year since the introduction of gill nets it will be more than doubled.

SCARCITY OF WORKMEN.—The *British Whig* says, that artisans of all descriptions are very scarce at Kingston, while work is plentiful.

NO INTENTION OF ABANDONING HALIFAX.—The Imperial Government has recently issued notices, requiring tenders at Halifax "for the erection of Officers and Soldiers' Barracks, Hospital, Commissariat, and Barrack Stores, Inclosure Walls, Tanks, Sewers, Surface Drains, &c. &c."

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A child two years old, son of Mr. William Braidwood, Butcher, Water Street, Galt, fell into the river on the evening of Sunday week last, and though taken out alive died shortly afterwards.

ROYAL MAIL RIVER LINE.—This superb line of steamers is definitely composed of the following four vessels, viz.:—*Highlander*, Captain Stearns; the *Ottawa*, Captain Putnam; the *Lord Elgin*, Captain Farlinger; and the *New Era*, Captain Maxwell. One of these boats leaves Kingston for Montreal every morning at half-past five o'clock, making the passage in daylight.—*Whig*.

DISTRESSING OCCURRENCE.—Whilst an emigrant family travelling last week to the Huron District from Galt by the Doon Mills, in a wagon, the horses shied in passing a steep bush near the Distillery, and the vehicle with all its passengers were precipitated nearly forty feet into the river. The mother, who was far advanced in pregnancy, was kicked by the horses before she could be extricated. The *Galt Reporter* states that the remainder of the parties escaped with slight bruises, and hopes are entertained that the chief sufferer will ultimately recover.

Mr. David Buchan of Paris has been appointed Chairman of the University Endowment Board.

MURDER AT A CHIRAVARI.—In the township of Barrie, some parties went to the house of a blacksmith named Humphrey, to chiravari him.—Stones were thrown, and in the excitement a man named Levington was shot dead. Humphreys has been committed to take his trial for the homicide, though he denies having fired the shot.

We regret to hear that Mr. Smiley, of the Hamilton *Spectator* is in a precarious state of health. He departed last week on a visit to Great Britain and the south of France.

FIRE.—The steam mill belonging to Charles Hull, Esq., Glandford, situated near Hamilton and Port Dover road, was destroyed by fire on Friday last. We are sorry to learn from the *Spectator* that the loss was great and that there was no insurance.

On Sunday the body of an infant was discovered near the mouth of the Don. An inquest was held on the remains by Dr. King, when the Jury found that the deceased came to its death by violence from some persons unknown.

FIRE.—A severe fire, originating, it is supposed, from hot ashes being placed contiguous to a stable, occurred at Cobourg on Saturday evening. A large block of wooden buildings, together with a stone tenement, all situate in the heart of the town, were destroyed; it was expected at one time that the results would have been much more disastrous, as the wind was blowing strong from the North West.

ASSIZES FOR THE COUNTY OF YORK.

On Saturday and Monday last, the Court was occupied with the suit of the Corporation against Mr. Furniss, proprietor of the Toronto Water Works. The plaintiffs alleged a breach of contract in supplying water to the city in insufficient quantities. Many witnesses were examined on both sides, and the result was a verdict of £2000 for the Corporation.

Yesterday, the trial of Mathias Ingram, of Churchville, accused of forgery, was proceeded with, and resulted in a verdict of not guilty.

TO CORRESPONDENTS, &c.

We have perused with much pleasure "The Holly Branch," by Harriet Annie. The crowded state of our columns to-day constrains us to defer a review of it till next week.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

LETTERS received to Wednesday, May 21st, 1851:—The Postmaster, Yarmouth, U. S.; Rev. R. L. Stephenson, Buckingham, rem.

THE CHURCH.

TORONTO, THURSDAY MAY 22, 1851,

The Bishop of Toronto begs to inform his Brethren the Clergy of the District of Niagara, that he intends, (D.V.) to confirm at their several Missions and Stations in accordance with the following list, May 1851:—

Saturday 24,	Cayuga	3, P.M.
Sunday 25,	York	11, A.M.
" 25,	Caledonia	3, P.M.
Monday 26,	Jarvis	11, A.M.
Tuesday 27,	Walpole	11, A.M.

Should there be any error or omission in this list the Bishop requests the Clergyman interested to notify him of the same in time to be corrected.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

The Provincial Parliament was opened on Tuesday with the usual formalities.

His Excellency the Governor-General, accompanied by Lady Elma Bruce, and the officers of his suite, left Elmsley House shortly before three

o'clock, p.m., escorted by Major Denison's Provincial Dragoons. The Vice-regal carriage was followed by a few members of the City Corporation in cabs, and we must say that the appearance which the civic fathers made, did not add much either to the effect of the procession or the dignity of Toronto. We understand, however, that the invitation to the Corporation to take part in the proceedings of the day, was sent at such a preposterously late hour, that no time was allowed them to make fitting preparations.

At the corners of the principal streets, along which His Excellency passed, a few sight-seers were assembled, but the majority of them appeared to look upon the affair with the most utter indifference. If there were no hisses, there assuredly were no cheers, and altogether a less exciting display of the kind it never was our chance to witness.

The Governor-General was received at the Parliament House by a guard of honour of the 71st Regiment, whose band performed the Royal Anthem while His Excellency descended from the carriage. A salute was fired from the Garrison, and H. M. Ship, the Mohawk, but not a solitary huzza greeted the representative of Royalty.

We were much pleased with the general appearance of the Council Chamber, which was densely crowded, particularly by ladies, of whom nearly three-fourths of the assembly were composed.—Only a few of the Legislative Councillors were present, who, of course, were in full costume. Some of the Judges, the Sheriff, and other public officials likewise attended to do honour to the occasion.

His Excellency, who had rather a jaded and listless appearance, having taken his seat on the Throne, the Speaker of the Lower House, attended by a handful of members entered the Hall, followed by a tumultuous rush of spectators, who in a few minutes filled every nook and corner below the bar, almost to suffocation. Order having been partially obtained, the Governor-General proceeded to read the following speech:—

Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council: Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly.

In again meeting you for the discharge of our Legislative duties, it affords me much satisfaction to congratulate you on the general prosperity of the Province.

The Crop of last year was abundant; the Revenue from the customs, and the traffic on the Provincial Canals, are steadily increasing; and the securities of the Province command a high price.

The effect of recent changes in the Imperial Navigation Law is also beginning to be felt in the more frequent resort of Foreign Shipping to our Sea Ports. It is alleged however by persons connected with the Shipping Interest that certain provisions of the Immigration Act are favourable to the extension of a valuable branch of our Import Trade. The subject is an important one, and I recommend it to your consideration.

Under these favourable circumstances, the further improvement of the means of internal communications has recently engaged a large share of public attention. In many parts of Western Canada capital has been applied extensively and with much advantage by persons interested in the several localities and by others to the construction of good country roads; and measures have been taken in both sections of the Province with the view of pressing forward important lines of Railway.

Parliament has already given proof of its disposition to afford to undertakings of this description, which are calculated to be beneficial to the Province, such aid as can be properly given to them, without impairing the Provincial Credit, or encouraging improvident speculation.—I feel confident that in any further legislation which you may see fit to adopt on this subject you will adhere to the principles of this judicious Policy.

A considerable increase in correspondence has, I am happy to inform you, taken place since the new Postage Law came into operation. This fact, which furnishes conclusive proof of the advantage accruing to the community from the measure, warrants moreover the expectation that the receipts of the Department will before long recover from the depression consequent on the adoption of greatly reduced rates of postage.

Under the operation of the measures which have been recently adopted by the Legislatures of the several North American Provinces, the intercolonial Trade is assuming proportions of increasing magnitude, and promises to become a considerable branch of our industry. I shall lay before you a Despatch in which Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies submits for consideration, a proposal for the construction of a Railway between Halifax and Quebec or Montreal, which has an important bearing on this subject.

The dispute respecting the Boundary which has been so long pending between Canada and New Brunswick, has been productive of much inconvenience to both Provinces, and of no small hardship to those who are interested in the Territory which is the subject of conflicting claims. In accordance with a suggestion made by the Secretary of State, I requested the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick to meet me here last autumn with the view of arranging the details of a scheme of arbitration for the settlement of this question. The report of the arbitrators, who were appointed in pursuance of the agreement entered into at that time by the Governments of the two Provinces, will, I have reason to believe, be presented at an early period.

With the concurrence of the Executive of this Province, permission has been granted by Her Majesty's Imperial Government to the Government of the United States, to erect a Light House on the Horse Shoe Reef in the Niagara River, at the outlet of Lake Erie, which is likely to prove highly advantageous to the Shipping that frequents those waters.

It is yet too early to speak with confidence of the results of the great Exhibition which is now being held in London. From the reports which have reached me, however, I have reason to hope that Canadian produce and industry will be found to have been not unworthily represented on this interesting occasion. Much credit is due to those who have exerted themselves for the promotion of this object.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,

I have received a communication from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, which I shall lay before you, intimating that her Majesty has

been pleased to receive very graciously the Address on the subject of the Clergy Reserves which you entrusted to me for transmission last Session—and stating the views of Her Majesty's Imperial Government on the subject of that Address.

I shall direct the accounts of Revenue and expenditure and the Estimates for the year to be laid before you, and I rely on your making the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Public Service and the maintenance of the Provincial Credit.

Honorable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen,

A measure will be submitted to you for effecting a reduction in certain charges provided for by the Civil List Act of 1846, and I shall lay before you the correspondence which has passed between this Government and the Secretary of State on the subject.

I again recommend to your consideration the important subject of an increase in the Parliamentary Representation of the Province.

The expediency of amending the School and Municipal Laws of Eastern Canada in some of their details with a view of securing in a more ample manner for that section of the Province the benefits which these enactments are designed to confer, will probably engage your attention.

As the Province advances in wealth and population, and the authority of the local Parliament is extended and confirmed, the responsibilities which attach to Members of this Legislature become necessarily more onerous. The people of Canada, while they justly appreciate the requirements of an age of progress, are attached to their institutions, and faithful to their early traditions, and I am confident that you will earnestly endeavour, in humble reliance on the Divine Blessing to promote in this spirit their best interests.

After a brief interval His Excellency left the hall, and on entering his carriage was saluted with a faint and laboriously got-up cheer, from eight or ten individuals, who occupied the outer steps of the building.

It is not necessary for us to make any comments upon the Speech. As a contemporary observes, it was, "on the whole, about as puerile an affair as it would have been possible to concoct." The erection of a light-house in the Niagara river formed one of its leading paragraphs; and more space was devoted to "the great exhibition" than to the Clergy Reserves!

After His Excellency had departed, the Legislative Council proceeded to business. A bill relating to common schools (that inexhaustible bone for the gnawing of political empirics) was introduced and read a first time, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Leslie. The Hon. Mr. de Blaquiere gave notice that he would move, on Friday next, for a copy of the charter applied for by the Lord Bishop of Toronto for Trinity College. What legitimate interest the learned Chancellor has in this matter is more than we can comprehend. We should think that his attention would be sufficiently occupied in guarding the interests of the institution over which he presides, and which the *Examiner* of yesterday characterises as "The great Toronto Alms-house: lately the Toronto University!"

In the House of Assembly, the most notorious incident was the introduction of the newly-elected member for Haldimand by Mr. DeWitt and Dr. Smith. The hero of Gallows Hill bore his "blushing honours" with wonderful coolness and sang *froid*; and we thought that we could detect a mischievous twinkle in his eye, as it took a survey of the ministerial benches. Mr. H. J. Boulton gave notice of an address for a return of all roads, slides, harbours, etc., in the hands of Government previous to last session. Mr. H. Sherwood gave notice of an enquiry relative to the removal of the Seat of Government; a bill to repeal the Usury Laws in Upper Canada; and one to amend the charter of the University of Toronto. The Hon. J. H. Cameron gave notice of several bills bearing upon legal reform; Mr. Merritt of one on the subject of reciprocity. Mr. Robinson gave notice of an enquiry as to the imposition of differential duties; and last, though not least, Mr. William Lyon McKenzie, who appears anxious to get into harness once more, gave notice of two bills: one to prevent the Upper Canada Loan Company from receiving higher interest than is permitted by law to other bodies; and the other for establishing "Courts of Conciliation" in Canada West. This proposition, we suspect, will meet with but small support from the legal members of the House. Altogether, there is every appearance that Ministers will have abundance of "little bills," to meet during the current session.

The debate upon the Address was commenced, Mr. Ross moving and Mr. Morrison seconding the same. After some altercation, however, on the question of regularity, Mr. Baldwin consented that the debate should be adjourned till to-day, and then further, if deemed necessary.

DIOCESAN SYNODS.

The following conversation which took place in the House of Commons on the 2nd of May, is peculiarly interesting at the present moment, as bearing upon the legality of Diocesan Synods:—

"Mr. Childer called the attention of the House to a letter published a few days ago by the Bishop of Exeter, announcing his intention to hold a Diocesan Synod in June next. He observed that his intention would have the effect of separating the Clergy of Exeter from the rest of the Clergy of the establishment, and he asked the Government how they intended to act with respect to the contemplated Synod in the diocese of Exeter?"

"Lord J. Russell said, he had taken the opinion of the law officers of the crown with regard to the holding of diocesan synods, but he did not think the assembly proposed to be called by the bishop had the character, or was called in manner of a provincial

synod, which could not be called together without the Queen's writ, nor could they put into force any canon without the Queen's permission under the penalty of imprisonment. The bishop, however, has expressly declared that it was not the intention of the proposed assembly to enact any canon, and that he did not mean to do any act contrary to law in any respect. Neither the Attorney General nor the Solicitor General were of opinion that the proposed meeting would be unlawful, although the Bishop of Exeter had used the name of Synod for an assembly called in a different way, and for a different purpose, from a synod properly so called. He considered the bishop's object was to impugn the judgment of the Privy Council in the Gorham case, and it remained to be seen what course the bishop took in relation to that decision before any steps could be decided on as to the proposed assembly. After a short discussion the subject dropped."

SECESSION TO ROME.

Dissenters have coined a vast amount of showy but spurious capital, out of the perversions to Romanism which have taken place from the ranks of the Reformed Anglican Catholic Church during the last fifteen years. Superficial sectarian prints, of which the *Christian Guardian* is a fair specimen, have been in the habit of blowing their penny trumpets with mock heroic pomposity at each instance of desertion, and of certiorating their too credulous dupes, that because a few drops of ill blood had oozed from the ecclesiastical body, "the whole head is sick; and the whole heart faint." Such croakers, if sincere (which we much fear the vast majority of them are not,) have yet to learn, that never is a system more vigorous or in sounder health, than when it throws off crude and angry humours. Apostasies were rife in the Primitive Church, even during the incumbency of the first Bishops, and such "offences" will ever occur till the militant state is exchanged for the triumphant!

The Romanists themselves, do not coincide with the platform men in estimating the gains which the Vatican has received from the treasons to which we have been alluding. With every disposition to magnify the prosperity of their communion, at the expense of their most formidable—we may say their only formidable opponent—they cannot shut their eyes to the notorious fact, that after all the noise and fanfaronade which has been made, the labouring mountain has produced a ridiculously diminutive mouse!

To prove that we are not speaking without data, we subjoin an extract from a recent number of the *Tablet*, one of the leading, and certainly one of the most intelligent organs of Romanism in the mother country. Alluding to the "secessions," that journal observes:

"The hard-headed and the hard-hearted class of the English nation still presents itself as an impenetrable rock from which no water issues forth."

"Since the commencement of the present movement of divine grace, Oxford has sent into the Church about a hundred men, Cambridge about sixty. This is the fruit of the last fifteen years, and is not one for every hundred men who become members of the University in a given year. In Cambridge the proportion is still less for the members of that University are more numerous, and the conversions from it have been fewer."

"In ancient times, for reasons that are sufficiently obvious, the conversion of one man of rank was followed by that of his dependants. A feudal lord who led his vassals to battle, led them also to the salutary font of baptism. A king's conversion necessitated the conversion of his subjects; and the cleansing of the royal chapel from the pollution of a false worship was also followed by the application of all other places of the like kind to the true worship of God. Something of this we see at times in the East; when a schismatic Bishop is converted to the Roman Church his people and clergy follow his example."

"But, now, in England, and generally throughout Europe, the conversion of one man stands by itself. And we are accustomed to watch with singular earnestness whether a man's wife or children follow his example; and he who has that blessing, in addition to his own conversion, is more than usually blessed. As for a man's tenants, or servants, or friends, these think no more of following him in the step he has taken, than they think of becoming Fakirs or Dervishes; so completely has the principle of private judgment entered into the whole social relations of the world."

"Generally speaking, the converts lose their former position in the world, their influence vanishes, and their personal character, how high soever it may have been before, is then the object of every man's criticism; imperfections are magnified into faults, and faults into grievous sins—even their very excellencies are discovered to have been vices, and all their goodness has become moroseness and a spirit of discontent, while cheerfulness is reprobated as levity or profaneness."

We are aware from personal observation, that in Canada, schismatics, especially some Methodists, who inconsistently call themselves after the name of that erratic but sound-hearted Churchman, John Wesley, are striving to entice simple sheep from the Apostolic fold, by representing that the Anglican and Italian Churches are on the eve of giving to each other the right hand of fellowship. Let the above quoted paragraphs from the *Tablet*, be the ready answer to such Jesuitical deceivers—for there are Jesuits in the *Preaching-house*, (vide Wesley's Journals,) as well as in the *Mass-house*. Men, we mean, who do not scruple to do evil that good may come, and who to advance the sordid interests of their "connexion" would pervert the plainest facts, and clothe the most palpable falsehood in the simulated garb of sincerity and truth! The Lord Bishop of Toronto speaks shrewdly and soundly in his recently delivered charge, as to the moral effects of the desertions from England to Rome which the present age has witnessed. His Lordship says: