

Government at Washington act, were the extradition of these Irish rebels as felons guilty of robbery, to be demanded of it by the British authorities, and in virtue of the Ashburton Treaty?

But if both the British and the Washington Governments had previously recognised the Irish insurgents as belligerents—as they have both done in the case of the Confederate States of the South—how then, and in such a case, would a demand for extradition, upon the grounds of felony; of such Irish insurgents be received and entertained by the people of the Northern States?

These are questions to which we should be glad to receive an answer from our talented and esteemed contemporary the New York Freeman.

The Union scheme proposed by the Quebec delegates does not seem to find many ardent supporters outside of the ranks of those who have a personal interest in its success. As we have already mentioned even the delegates from Prince E. Island are not unanimous in favor of the scheme, and in the other Provinces the measure is anything but popular.

At Halifax there have been meetings on the subject, and as we learn from our exchanges attended with much excitement, especially on the evening of the 19th ult., at a public meeting called by the Mayor, and which the friends of Dr. Tupper had packed, or attempted to pack, in order to prevent their opponents from obtaining a hearing for the arguments against centralisation. The great majority of those present, we are assured by the Halifax Citizen, were opposed to the Quebec scheme; but the "roughs" in the service of Dr. Tupper and his friends kicked up such a row, that Mr. Uniacke and his friends attempted in vain to make themselves heard. At last the latter left the meeting in disgust, and the Mayor adjourned it to some other occasion.

The following, on the same subject, is from the Patriot, of St. John's, Newfoundland:—

"This Colony, so far as we can read her intended position in the Union, has everything to lose, and nothing whatever to gain, by giving up her separate and independent existence. We should be very reluctant indeed to resign the protecting wings of Great Britain to form part of a Federation, in which we should be only conspicuous for our self-imposed insignificance, and which has centralization (which is well expressed in the extract at the head of this article) and Canadian interests prominently in the foreground.—Patriot.

Letters have been received in town from His Lordship the Bishop of Montreal, under date Paris, 5th Dec. His Lordship was in good health. Delays had occurred which had prevented him from carrying out his original intention of assisting at Rome at the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

**SINGULAR CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION.**—The London Times reports some strange claims for compensation by the sufferers from the late inundation at Sheffield, upon the pretence of "consequential damages." One claimant is a grocer, who complains that by the inundation all his customers were swept away, and have since the inundation established themselves in a remote part of the town; in consequence his business has been destroyed. Another, a rat-catcher, claims compensation "because the flood had drowned all the rats in the district that he was accustomed to operate in." But the claim of a third sufferer, a surgeon, is stranger still, and is thus stated in the Times:—

"A surgeon sent in a claim for damages caused by the removal (in consequence of the flood) of many ladies whom he would otherwise have had to attend at their confinements."—Times.

Neither of the rat-catcher nor of the surgeon were the claims admitted, but the Times adds that "other claims equally whimsical were mentioned."

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—M. D. writes to us to contradict a statement that appeared in our columns in a communication from the Rev. Mr. Northgraves, to the effect that an Irish priest, the Rev. Mr. Lavalle, had been deprived of his priestly faculties for abetting Fenianism. This statement M. D. denies; and with the publication of this his denial, he must permit us to let the matter drop, as we do not intend to revive an ancient, and we hope an extinct quarrel—one too upon which the authorities of the Church have adjudicated, and with which it becomes not us, simple laymen, to meddle. M. D. will accept this as our reason for not inserting his letter, and for refusing to discuss in the TRUE WITNESS the merits of the melancholy business to which he alludes.

The Committee of the St. Patrick's Society beg to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of \$30, [Thirty dollars] from the Hon. Thos. Ryan towards the charitable fund of the Society.

**THE COMMAND OF THE SERVICE VOLUNTEERS.**—His Excellency Lieut.-General Sir W. F. Williams, Commander of the Forces, has been named Commander of the three administrative Battalions of Volunteers now on actual service.

**MIDNIGHT MASS AT THE GRAND SEMINARY.**—We know of no practice of the Catholic Church more touching or more beautiful than that of ushering in the Great Festival of Christmas by the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of Mass. There is something peculiarly impressive in the Eucharistic Sacrifice—a sacrifice at which men and angels assist, and in assisting, tremble with holy fear—when offered in the solemn stillness of the midnight hour, when all nature is at rest, when not the faintest noise, save the occasional howling of the winter breeze, breaks in to disturb the sweet tranquility in which all creation is enveloped,—beautiful emblem of the coming of Him Whose birth gave the world that peace and consolation for which mankind for forty centuries had sighed in vain.

Such was the idea that struck us as we entered the chapel of the Grand Seminary to assist at the midnight Mass celebrated there on Christmas Day. The interior of the magnificent edifice was on that occasion more than usually charming, having been most brilliantly lighted up with countless lamps, so beautifully arranged on each side of the building that, whilst bathing the whole of the interior in a flood of light, their rays fell softly and pleasantly upon the vision of the beholders. In the middle of the large and spacious sanctuary was erected a platform, on which was laid a glass frame, containing a wax image of the "Infant Jesus,"—the whole surrounded with all the scenery that piety and good taste could suggest.

Solemn High Mass was celebrated on the occasion, by the Rev. M. Lenor, President of the Montreal College, assisted by the Rev. M. Laboreau, as Deacon, and the Rev. M. Allard, as Sub-deacon.

The splendid vestments used on the occasion were, we were told, the gift of the Rev. Mr. Barbarin, Priest, S.S., whose generosity is already so well known to our fellow-citizens. The Choir was, as usual, divided into two parts, one of which was composed of the Ecclesiastics of the Grand Seminary and a number of Priests, all led by the Rev. M. Larue, Acting Director of that Institution; the other was composed of the students of the Montreal College, under the direction of the Rev. Mr. Lefebvre. The instrumental music, consisting of a number of wind and string instruments, accompanied by a powerful organ, was likewise under the excellent leadership of the Rev. M. Lefebvre, of the College. The organ, which is destined for the use of the Grand Seminary, is quite new, having only lately been purchased at Mr. Warren's celebrated Organ Manufactory, Montreal, and is the one that took the first prize at the Provincial Exhibition held in this city last summer. The music at this solemn and imposing ceremony was, of course, exquisite, and such as can rarely be heard outside of our beautiful Church. The extraordinary proficiency which the students of the Montreal College have attained in the "Heaven-born art of music," reflects the highest credit upon their talented Professor, Mr. Lavalle, and must be highly satisfactory to the reverend gentlemen who conduct that excellent institution.

The numerous friends of the Rev. Mr. Bayle, Director of the Grand Seminary, will be happy to learn that several letters have been already received from him. The Rev. Gentleman had a very short and pleasant voyage across the Atlantic, and, at last accounts, enjoyed excellent health. His many old friends in the Seminary of St. Sulpice, Paris, the Parent House of the Sulpician Society, of which he is so bright an ornament, must have received their venerable brother with sentiments of unmingled pleasure and satisfaction. He will not, probably, return before Easter. In the meantime the Patrons and other well-wishers of the Grand Seminary will be pleased to know that the duties of Director are discharged by a gentleman of such varied abilities as the Rev. Mr. Larue, Professor of Moral Theology in that Institution.

The fine parish church of St. Joseph de la Beauce was totally destroyed by fire on the afternoon of Tuesday last. The fire caught in the sacristy. The cure and his vicar were absent but one of the reverend gentlemen was fortunate enough to save the greater portion of the sacred vessels in the building from the flames. The parish is a sufferer to several thousand pounds. The building was insured for two-thirds of its value.—Herald, 3rd inst.

**IMPORTANT RUMOR.**—Rumors have been prevalent for some time of an increase to the Imperial military force in Canada. It is now stated in military and other well-informed circles that the Coldstream Guards and other regiments to the number of ten thousand men have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness to embark for Canada. The reason given in the same circles for this movement is the intention of the Governments of France and Great Britain on the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln in March next to recognise him as the President only of those States for which he has been elected; thus officially affirming the disunion of the formerly United States spoken of by Earl Russell in his letter to the Confederate Commissioners.

**"WONDERS OF THE MICROSCOPE."**—On Thursday evening the 26th instant Edward Murphy, Esq., will deliver a Lecture on the above named subject for the benefit of the "Young Men's Society." The subject is an interesting one, and Mr. Murphy is master of his subject, so that we are assured that the Lecture will be not only interesting, but profitable to the excellent Society in whose behalf it is to be given. Particulars in our next.

We would direct attention to Mr. Curran's Lecture on the Irish in America published on our first page.

**DEATH OF A BELOVED TEACHER.**—Death is sad at all times;—sad, when it tears the young girl from the happy home-circle in the glad spring-time of her youth; sad, when it bids the mother part from her sleeping children; sad, when it leaves the cradle empty, and bushes the merry laugh of infant prattler; but when it carries the virgin-spouse of Jesus to her Lord's embrace, its very sadness becomes beautiful and consoling. Thus we have thought, thus we have said as we stood, not with tearless eye, beside the lovely bier of a dear departed Teacher.

Four years ago, a young girl, rich in accomplishments, richer still in the higher gifts of piety and virtue, knelt at the foot of the altar, and consecrated her whole life to the service of God and her neighbor, as an Ursuline: there she vowed to remain pure, humble, and obedient to the end of her days. In the midst of friends, warm and true, she had heard the voice of God calling her to higher perfection; she hesitated not, but left all to obey. Without one pang of regret, she renounced the illusive hopes of youth, for the purer joy of loving and serving God as His consecrated spouse; and from Heaven above Jesus watched over the little flower which sweetly bloomed in the shade of the Cloister.

After a few years of devotion and sacrifice, consumption declared itself; gradually the assiduous Teacher was forced to resign her seat in class to another. Even the care of the "little ones" whom she had loved with all a mother's tenderness, at length became too much for her declining strength. It was a sad day for her little charges when they heard that their kind, gentle mistress was to leave them: so patient had she been in teaching their little lessons, so gentle in her reprimands, so skilled in those long, beautiful stories, in which good children are always ultimately rewarded, and wicked ones punished. They loved her with all the warmth of their young hearts, and when at times she still came to pay them a visit it was indeed a day of rejoicing.

Mother St. Ignatius had yet one earthly wish (if earthly it could be deemed) that remained unsatisfied.

A beloved brother was waiting to consecrate himself to the Almighty, and often had she been heard to say; "If I can but see my dear brother a priest, I shall die contented. He will continue to render to society those services which I must now interrupt."

That day came and his first Mass was offered up in the Convent Chapel. A ray of happiness lit up her pale, placid countenance, as she knelt to receive her Maker from his hand. It reminded her, she said, of the joy she had experienced when for the first time her Saviour had rested on her bosom, and of that other blessed day when later, she had consecrated herself to his Divine service.

Her health, from that day, declined with rapidity; her sufferings were intense, but no prayer to be released ever crossed her lips. It was a happiness to suffer for her Lord, since she could no longer labor for Him.

Nor did the dying Nun forget those who surrounded her. A sweet smile, a bend of weary head, when her lips could no longer articulate her thanks, spoke her gratitude, and showed that she appreciated the services of her loving sisters. At last, the strife of nature was at an end; calmly she sank to her last sleep, sweetly resting in the arms of her Saviour.

"Her sisters thought her dying, when she slept; And now, when dead, they thought she did but sleep."

It was a solemn spectacle to see her laid out in the chapel, dressed in the habit of the Order, with the parchment that contained her vows, and the crucifix that she had pressed to her dying lips, tightly clasped to her thin, almost transparent hands.

All earthly beauty had vanished from her pale, emaciated face, but a sweet smile lingered on her lips, and an expression of serenity rested on that countenance where death had placed his seal. The happiness which had now become her portion, seemed to have left its impress on her earthly remains.

Truly it is a blessed thing to live under the banner of St. Ursule, and to imitate as closely as did our dear mother St. Ignatius, the examples of those saints who reign with her above. For my part I cannot say for her soul "Requiescat in pace," but I say to her from this weary world: "Ora pro nobis!"

**A PUPIL OF THE URSULINE CONVENT.**

**SUGGESTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS PRESENTED TO THE FRIENDS OF PROTESTANT EDUCATION IN LOWER CANADA, BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE PROTESTANT EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.**

Protestant population. They do this from no factious motive, and from no desire to come into antagonism either with the present system of education or with those of a different faith from themselves; but simply for the purpose of securing what appears to them to be right and necessary for the maintenance of their just privileges in a matter so vital to their welfare as that of education.

It is generally understood, that a Bill will be introduced into Parliament at its next Session on the subject of Protestant Education in Lower Canada, and that whatever may then be enacted will be placed under the guardianship of the general constitution and government of the proposed Confederacy of the British Provinces; it is therefore important that this Bill should not be merely an amendment of the present unsatisfactory educational laws, but should be a complete revision of the whole code of education, in so far as it affects the Protestant population.

After maturely considering the question, the Committee would suggest that the new Bill should in its enactments embody the following general principles, viz:—

I. That there should be a separate Educational Department for the Protestant population, viz: a Protestant Superintendent appointed by and communicating directly with the Provincial Government, and a Council of Public Instruction, representing as far as possible the leading Protestant denominations of the country; such Council to have, under the provisions of the law, the control of all matters pertaining to Protestant education, including the Protestant Board of Examiners, and qualifications may be deemed necessary for Teachers' diplomas.

II. That Protestants should in no case be taxed for Schools under the care of Roman Catholic Commissioners; these Schools being essentially religious in their character, and conducted in a manner repugnant to the conscientious convictions of Protestants. We do not propose any interference with the liberty claimed by Roman Catholics to teach the doctrines and practices of their own faith in their own public Schools, but we require that, so long as they continue to do so, Protestants, and those who from time to time may ally themselves with or become Protestants, should be exempted from taxation for the support of such Schools. Our idea is, that Protestants should only be required to pay School taxes to Protestant School Commissioners for the support of such Schools as may be under the care of the Protestant Department of Public Instruction; and that Protestants residing in any locality in which a Protestant School District shall not have been organized, should have the right of claiming exemption from any School taxes imposed by Roman Catholic School Commissioners; and to assign their taxes to the Council of Public Instruction, to be held and administered by it for the benefit of such parties.

It is also suggested that Commercial or Land Corporations should have the power, through their governing Boards, designate to the taxes which may fall to be paid by them, in any School District in which there are Protestant and Roman Catholic School Commissioners, to either the one or the other; but in case such taxes shall not be so designated, they should then be divided between the Protestant and Roman Catholic Schools, according to the ratio of population, or in such other equitable manner as may be provided.

It is further suggested that non-resident proprietors should have the power, either by themselves or their agents, specially to designate their taxes to Protestant or Roman Catholic Schools; but in case they shall not so designate them, they should be paid to the School Commissioners of the majority; and in districts where there are both Protestant and Roman Catholic Schools, should by said Commissioners be divided between such Schools according to the ratio of population.

III. That Districts, for Protestant School purposes should be established without reference to Parishes, Municipalities, or Counties; and that powers should be granted to the Protestant Council of Public Instruction to constitute such Districts, when petitioned so to do by any five resident Rate-payers, being Protestants.

IV. That Legislative Grants and Public Endowments for the support of Schools, should be divided between the Protestant and Roman Catholic Departments according to the ratio of population as determined by the decennial census; to be by them appropriated to their respective Schools, accounting for the same to the Provincial Government and subject to their review. Such Public Grants and Endowments not to exceed the aggregate amount of the local taxation.

V. That special provision be made for education in the city of Montreal, and that the educational grants now held by particular schools from the public funds should, if they continue to be appropriated, be received and administered by the Protestant Board of Education, and that all assessments for school purposes should be regulated by the same principles as are applied to other parts of the country,—provision being made that Protestant taxes shall be appropriated only to Protestant schools.

It is also suggested that the Board of Protestant School Commissioners for this city be increased from six to twelve, one half of whom shall be appointed by the City Council and the other half by the Protestant Council of Public Instruction, biennially; care being taken that as far as possible the leading Protestant denominations of the city be represented in it. All public Schools in the city soliciting aid to be under the management of this Board, excepting the McGill Normal and High Schools.

Special arrangements to be also provided for the city of Quebec.

VI. That all non-Catholics be at liberty to avail themselves of the educational arrangements provided for Protestants; and that Roman Catholics may avail themselves of the privileges accorded to Protestants.

VII. That the terms Dissident Trustees and Dissident Schools should henceforth cease to be used, and that the managers and the schools for the Protestant population should be known respectively as Protestant School Commissioners and Protestant Schools.

VIII. That Universities and their affiliated Colleges, and the Provincial Normal Schools, should have special funds or grants of land appropriated to their support; and that classical Academies and High Schools, properly so called, should also have special funds appropriated to their support, and that no portion of the Legislative grants for common School purposes should be appropriated to such institutions.

IX. That all matters relating to the legal value of University Degrees should, in the event of a Confederacy of the British Provinces, be under the control of the general government.

The Committee, in issuing these considerations, would invite the attention of Dissident School Trustees, Boards of Examiners, and Teachers' Associations to them, and request that they would report to the undersigned their views of the above principles proposed to be embodied in the new educational Bill, or any suggestions in regard to them that they may think important. The Committee would also recommend that all parties interested should petition the Legislature at its approaching meeting on the subject of such Bill.

In name of the committee of the Protestant Educational Association,

W. LUNN, Chairman.  
J. IRWIN, Secretary.  
D. H. MCVICAR, Secretary.

Montreal, 21st December, 1864.

A man named Scott, originally from Lower Canada, died in the Kingston Hotel Dieu on Tuesday last at the great age of 116 years: "Although feeble in body, he retained his general health and clearness of intellect to the last."

Remittances unavoidably crowded out.

**Birth.**  
In this city, on the 29th ult., Mrs. Robert Sutherland, of a daughter.

**MONTREAL RETAIL MARKET PRICES.**  
(From the Montreal Witness.)

	Jan. 3.	Jan. 4.	Jan. 5.
Flour, country, per qd.	12 9 to 13 0		
Oatmeal, do	0 0 to 0 0		
Indian Meal	0 0 to 0 0		
Peas per min	0 0 to 0 0		
Beans, small white per min,	0 0 to 0 0		
Honey, per lb	0 0 to 0 0		
Lard, do	0 7 to 0 8		
Potatoes, per bag	3 3 to 3 9		
Onions do	0 0 to 3 9		
Sheep	4 00 to 5 00		
Lambs	2 00 to 3 00		
Eggs, fresh, per dozen	0 10 to 1 0		
Butter, fresh per lb	0 13 to 1 6		
Do salt, do	0 11 to 1 0		
Barley, do., for seed per 50 lbs.	0 0 to 0 0		
Oats do.	1 10 to 2 0		

**MONTREAL WHOLESALE MARKETS**  
Montreal, Jan. 3, 1864.

Flour—Pollards, \$2.00 to \$3.10; Middlings, \$3.30 to \$3.50; Fine, \$3.60 to \$3.80; Super., No. 2, \$4.00 to \$4.20; Superior, \$4.45 to \$4.40; Fancy, \$4.42; Extra, \$4.65 to \$4.60; Superior Extra, \$4.70 to \$4.90; Bag Flour, \$2.35 to \$2.38.

Oatmeal per bbl of 200 lbs, \$4.75 to \$5.00; Wheat—U Canada Spring, 00c to 00c ex-cars; U C. Winter, 00c.

Ashes per 100 lbs, Pots, latest sales were at \$5.424 to \$6.00; Inferior Pots, \$0.90 to \$2.00; Pearls, in demand, at \$5.40 to \$5.50.

Butter—Store packed in small packages at 00c, and a lot of choice Dairy 00c to 00c.

Eggs per doz, 00c.

Lard per lb, fair demand at 00c to 00c.

Tallow per lb, 00c to 00c.

Cut-Meats per lb, Hams, canvassed, 00c to 00c; Bacon, 00c to 00c.

Pork—Quiet; New Prime, \$0.00 to \$0.00, Montreal Mess, \$0.00 to \$4.60; Best, \$0.00 to \$0.00.—*Montreal Witness.*

Dressed Hogs, per 100 lbs. .. \$6.00 to \$6.00  
Hog, per 100 bundles .. \$8.00 to \$12.00  
Straw .. \$5.00 to \$7.50  
Beef, live, per 100 lbs .. 4.90 to 5.50



**ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY'S GRAND ANNUAL PROMENADE CONCERT,**  
WILL BE HELD IN THE  
**CITY CONCERT HALL,**  
ON  
**WEDNESDAY EVENING, 11th Jan., 1865.**

The Ladies of the St. Patrick's Congregation have kindly consented to co-operate with the Society in furnishing Refreshments, and will preside at the tables on the Evening of the Concert. The Splendid BAND of the 63rd Regiment has been engaged, and will perform. Proceeds to be devoted to charitable purposes. For particulars see hand-bills. Tickets 25 cts each.

F. M. CASSIDY, Rec. Sec.

**TO PRINTERS.**

**PRESS FOR SALE.**

**NORTHROP'S POWER PRESS,** in excellent condition, FOR SALE. Price—\$500.  
Montreal, Jan. 5, 1865.

**GREAT SALE OF DAMAGED BOOKS.**

The Subscribers will sell by AUCTION, at the Store of Messrs. D. & J. SADDLER & CO., corner of Francois Xavier and Notre Dame Streets, a LARGE QUANTITY OF BOOKS, DAMAGED BY WATER, comprising Bibles, Prayer Books, Lives of Christ, and the Blessed Virgin, Catholic and Miscellaneous Books, School Books, Paper and Envelopes, &c., &c. The whole to be sold without reserve.

The Sale will commence on MONDAY NEXT, 9th January, at EIGHT o'clock, p.m., and continue every Evening till the whole Stock is disposed of.

SHAW & BROTHER, Auctioneers.

School Teachers will find this an excellent opportunity as there is a large quantity of slightly damaged School Books to be sold.

**COLLEGE OF REGIOPOLIS**  
KINGSTON, C.W.,

Under the Immediate Supervision of the Right Rev. E. J. Horan, Bishop of Kingston.

The above Institution, situated in one of the most agreeable and healthful parts of Kingston, is now completely organized. Able Teachers have been provided for the various departments. The object of the Institution is to impart a good and solid education in the fullest sense of the word. The health, morals, and manners of the pupils will be an object of constant attention. The Course of instruction will include a complete Classical and Commercial Education. Particular attention will be given to the French and English languages.

A large and well selected Library will be OPEN to the Pupils.

**TERMS:**

Board and Tuition, \$100 per Annum (payable half-yearly in Advance).  
Use of Library during stay, \$2.  
The Annual Session commences on the 1st September, and ends on the First Thursday of July.  
July 21st, 1861.

**DALTON'S NEWS DEPOT.**

Newspapers, Periodicals, Magazines, Fashion Books, Novels, Stationery, School Books, Children's Books, Song Books, Almanacs, Diaries and Postage Stamp for sale at DALTON'S NEWS DEPOT, Corner of Craig and St. Lawrence Streets, Montreal.  
Jan. 17, 1864.