The Montreal Courier is published daily during the six business months of the year, viz., from the 1st of May to the 1st of November, and the other six months tri-weekly, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Subscription, six dollars ($6) per annum, payable in advance.

The Evening Courier (bi-weekly) is published on Monday and Thursday evenings, in time for the Mails, at the low price of three dollars ($3) per annum, payable in advance.

All Letters must be post-paid, or else the postage will be deducted from the amount paid.

Voluntary Correspondence solicited from all parts of the Continent of America. If made use of, the person transmitting the information will be liberally remunerated.

THE COURIER.

TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 1851.

We publish in this morning's issue a petition from the inhabitants of Montreal to the Honorable the Legislative Assembly on the subject of Public Education.

The subject of Education is one of the most important, particularly in a rising youthful community such as that of Canada, to which the energies of the statesman, the efforts of the moralist, the pen of the journalist, or the exertions of the Christian, can possibly be directed. To train youth in the way he should go, so that in maturity and age he may not depart from it, has been in all ages and civilized governments the most prominent consideration among legislators and magistrates. Much care is, however, necessary at all times in the proper digesting of any particular system to which youth are to be subjected. In this age of superficial and meretricious acquirement, the only aim seems to be to diversify the subjects of study as much as possible. Hence we find ignorant young men entering model schools or normal institutions, and after attending for five or six months coming out Professors of Mathematics, loud-tongued boasters of their Algebra, their Logic, Grammar, and what they call Philosophy. In the words of the Scottish Poet,

"They gang in stirks and come out asses;"

but, notwithstanding, these superficial and conceited persons are recommended as Schoolmasters in the towns and villages; and thus they are made to supersede or elbow out men of real, or at least greater, talent, whose modesty keeps them in the back-ground, waste the time of their pupils on useless subjects of instruction, [illegible] and thus they pour a flood of superficiality over the whole country, which even the learned themselves are unable to stem. A boy who has got a smattering of every thing, and who, in the course of his six months attendance at the Normal School, has been "*crammed*" so that he can answer a few questions put to him by a pedantic knight of the ferula, at a public examination, can scarcely ever again be brought to study any subject thoroughly or methodically. We have known students of this description hammering away at a simple equation before they could state, much less explain, a question in simple proportion, talking very learnedly about major and minor propositions before they knew the difference between a noun and a verb, and making a bold push at the Greek alphabet—for they seldom go much farther—before they had learned any Latin, and professing to be great judges of English composition before they had gone beyond the verb in its grammar. Such persons have always some little arithmetical puzzle or grammatical conundrum, upon the solution or explanation of which they value themselves highly, and cause plain people to suspect that they have dealings with a certain personage never to be mentioned to ears polite. As for mineralogy, conchology, chronology, astronomy, chymistry, &c., they have all these at their fingers'-ends, and will lecture you a full hour upon any of them at any time, never using a word of less than four syllables during the whole talk. It *is* indeed wonderful after all "that one small head can carry all they know." There is sometimes danger in these said lectures, however; we were once accidentally present when a normal school genius undertook to enlighten us on the subject of Chymistry; in the course of his manipulations we had nearly lost our eyes, and entirely lost a new silk waistcoat, by the bursting of a bottle; and we know a gentleman who was once set on fire, and nearly reduced to a smoking ruin, by the dexterity of another chemist of the same school. Young women are also made to learn these branches of study at the normal school, and perilously dangerous logicians they do become sometimes; we confess we do not like to see girls of sixteen and eighteen years of age walking through the streets with slates under their arms filled with algebraic equations, and their heads stuffed with nonsense about the volcanos in the moon, we think they would be much better at home learning to stitch neatly, or clear starch purely—but perhaps we are too fastidious. Music is another of the precious useful studies to which the scholars are subjected. In Upper Canada College, for instance, no matter whether the youth have a musical ear or not, they must fiddle or tootle-too or sol-fa it so many hours every week, to the neglect of their more important studies. The youth of that seminary were recently made to give a public Concert in the St. Lawrence Hall, when the dignified Principal delighted the company with a bravura on the clarionet. Whether he had a monkey or not on each shoulder during the performance the newspapers sayeth not, though such an accompaniment could scarcely have added to the ridicule of the exhibition. A sound system of secular and religious public instruction is one of the greatest blessings a state can possibly possess; but when the public schools are noted for nothing but quackery, superficiality, trifling, and nonsense, they become the sources of a thousand evils. It is well that the inhabitants of Montreal, and the people of Eastern Canada generally, are beginning to bestir themselves on this most important subject. It is one worthy the serious consideration of every patriotic mind. But having the prayer of their petition granted, they must look elsewhere than to Upper Canada for a model on which to base the system they mean to adopt.

Distribution of the Journals.

On Thursday last, the 5th instant, on the motion of Mr. Holmes, the House went into Committee on the first Report of Standing Committee on Printing. The Hon. Member stated that it had been decided by the Committee to recommend that distribution of Journals be made to the Municipalities of Upper and Lower Canada presently existing, or that might afterwards be erected. Mr. Smith, of Frontenac, voted against the motion; he saw no use in the proposed distribution of the Journals. He remembered that in Upper Canada, some years ago, extra numbers of the Journals were distributed among Members, and these might be seen lying about in different houses, entirely useless. It would be folly to spend £1000 in any such way. Mr. Laurin (who spoke in French) opposed the motion. Mr. Hincks said, that what was really wanting was a cheaper system of printing the Journals, so that any one could get them. To distribute the entire Journals, would oblige the House to print the same number of every document, whereas a great deal of what was printed was perfectly useless. Messrs. Laterrier and Lafontaine opposed the Report; and Mr. Holmes replied, that the Queen's Printers would not print the Journals to keep on hand as a speculation. Mr. Mackenzie, in connection with this question, enlarged on the necessity and advantages of education, and remarked, that he was surprised any opposition should come from the Attorney-General East, when he remembered that 80,000 of that gentleman's fellow-countrymen sent a Petition to England, amidst the taunts that were produced by the fact that 70,000 signed crosses. He asked if Ministers were afraid of information. Mr. Chauveau said there was no objection to distribute useful information, but there was great objection to distribute such useless information as he was constantly moving for. He had made a very ungracious allusion to the crosses signed to a certain Petition, but the hon. member should remember that if the people of Lower Canada had been kept without education, it was partly due to the misfortunes of the days of tyranny, and partly to the fault of persons in Upper, as well as Lower Canada, who had constantly encouraged useless agitation. The motion for the Committee to rise and report progress, was then carried.

The above is a short abstract of a debate in which the subject of discussion was violently and eagerly opposed by the Government, though the expense would be in no degree commensurate with the advantage of adopting the measure. In the course of the debate a Member reminded Mr. Hincks (*Colonist*) "that he could find means to squander in trips to Washington, excursions through the Welland Canal, bribes for road jobbers, or useless commissionerships to pamper partisans, but he would grudge the paltry sum necessary for giving the municipalities the information of what was done in the House, and the guide for their own Council proceedings." Mr. Chauveau's reasons for the ignorance of the French in Lower Canada, namely, political agitation, reminds us somewhat of Washington Irvine's reasons for giving the name of Stony Stratford to a certain town in England; he tells us that it is so called because it abounds in butterflies. Mr. Chauveau must look beyond political agitation for the disgraceful ignorance which prevails in the Seigniories of Eastern Canada, in which the great mass of the people are not only uneducated, but opposed to improvement of every kind. The only political disturbing influences ever introduced among them must have reached them through the instrumentality of such men as Mr. Chauveau himself. Certainly the blame, in this instance at least, does not lie at Mr. Mackenzie's door, who, though he might harangue to these illiterate boors for a twelvemonth, they would not understand a single word of his language; and even if they did understand a sentence or two of English uttered in the course of a speech, their minds are so utterly uninformed, their faculties so obtuse, and their apprehensions so blunt, that they are utterly incapable of comprehending its tendency or true import. Let any one with his eyes open make an excursion through the French Townships and note how these people live: what kind of dwellings they possess, how they dress, and what the construction of their agricultural implements. It is not merely their ignorance of reading and writing to which we exclusively advert; the Indian in his wigwam is equally uninstructed in these arts, but compare the comforts of an unsophisticated Indian village, the cleanliness, the order, and the adaptation of means to an end which every where appears,—compare this, we say, with the struggling squalor, rickety boarding, noisome dung-heaps, and tatterdemalian appearance of a French settlement. The Indian's instruments of the chase may be rude, but they are well adapted for his mode of life, and they are handled with dexterity; besides, when he becomes acquainted with more refined modes of life, he readily adopts them; but the *habitan* is hermetically sealed against improvement of any kind; with intelligence and enterprise every where around him and before his eyes, he remains the same; like the birds of the air, he builds his nest in the same manner from age to age, and continues to plod on as his fathers did before him, seemingly unconscious of the world's progress, or the world's enlightenment. Political agitation, so far from retarding him or freezing him down to this torpid state, would rather have a tendency to rouse him from his slavish apathy, and tempt him to exclaim to his petty dictators, "Am I not also a man?" A single ray of light beaming from the pure fountain of political or religious freedom would rouse him from the debasing vassalage of ignorance in which he is bound hand and foot, and would prompt him with irresistible force to vindicate his unalienable right, as a British subject, to all the freedom which the term British implies. But Mr. Chauveau, and such as he, know well that it is to the ignorance of their constituents that they owe their influence; and that were the French inhabitants as intelligent and as well educated as the British, a pretty considerable number of chattering *avocats* would be swept out of the Houses of Parliament, rendering the Provincial Legislature more English in its dialect, as well as in its proceedings, and that they would be reduced to the obscurity and insignificance of their original profession. If Mr. Chauveau will first labor to remove the mists of error, bigotry, and superstition, which cloud the minds of these benighted people—if he will use his influence in establishing schools in which a liberal education can be obtained—if he will share in advancing the means of procuring for them a more civilized mode of exercising the common customs of civil life—if he will have them taught how to sow and reap, how to grind and make bread, he may then from his place in the House refer with safety and honor to the condition of his countrymen, but not till then.

On Friday night the House was engaged several hours in discussing Mr. Merritt's Resolutions, on which to found an Address to the Queen, praying that the British Parliament will impose on the productions of foreign countries, imported into England, the same rates of duty that those countries levy on the productions of British Colonies. Mr. Merritt denounced the scheme of closing our Canals against American vessels as futile, and calculated only to excite the ridicule of American Statesmen. He believed England would have no objection to his proposal, as it only sought an extension of reciprocal imposts contained in the Navigation Act. Mr. Robinson proposed a series of Resolutions in amendment, in favor of differential duties, to encourage the trade of the St. Lawrence, and to ask England to put a small fixed duty on foreign grain. His principal objection to Mr. Merritt's Resolutions was their stating that Canada does not require Protection,—a system which, he contended, it was our true policy to adopt. The Inspector General said he would have no objection to join in an Address that would attract the attention of the Protectionists in England, but he contended that Mr. Merritt's Resolutions would be ridiculed by all parties. If retaliation became necessary, the closing of our Canals was the best policy that could be adopted. He would make up for the loss of the Canal Tolls by attracting a large trade to the St. Lawrence. Mr. Cayley was in favor of asking for the restoration of protection in the English Markets. Messrs. Stevenson and Sherwood (Brockville) and Holmes, declared themselves in favor of differential duties. Mr. Holmes proposed to abolish the Customs Department, and borrow a million and a half to carry on the Government for three years, when the Canals might be made to yield a sufficient revenue for all provincial purposes. The debate was postponed for a fortnight.

We have much pleasure in informing our readers that the eloquent and learned Jewish Rabbi, the Rev. M. J. Raphall, Ph. D., Minister of the Greene Street Synagogue, New York, will shortly deliver a course of Lectures on the "Poetry of the Hebrews, as contained in the Sacred Scriptures." These Lectures have been most highly eulogized by the English and American Press, and will, no doubt, afford an intellectual treat to our fellow citizens such as they seldom can enjoy. With deep learning, Dr. Raphall combines great eloquence, and a most engaging manner. The Rev. Doctor is expected in town this morning.

Montreal and City Banks.

In making a statement last week of the affairs of these Institutions, which we copied from the printed documents, we made a few remarks respecting them of a general nature, which were mislaid at the time, but we now hasten to supply the defect.

The Annual Statement of the Montreal Bank, under the able management of its highly esteemed President, the Hon. Peter McGill, and its experienced Cashier, Mr. Alex. Simpson, seems to be in an unusually prosperous condition; and we are happy to have it in our power to record that, notwithstanding the severe reverses which the City Bank has experienced, it exhibits a state of prosperity very far beyond the expectations of the public generally. This agreeable result has been obtained in some degree by the efficiency of the Country Agencies, but more particularly by the skill, assiduity, and intelligence of its laborious and persevering President and Cashier—Mr. Wm. Workman and Mr. McCulloch. We congratulate both Establishments on the prospect of still farther usefulness, which their increasing prosperity open to the merchants, shippers, and traders generally of this large commercial city.

Presentation.—On Friday, the 6th of June, 1851, the passengers on board the Bark *Minerva*, from Glasgow, presented the Captain, James Stewart, Esq., with a handsome gold pencil-case, in testimony of their high respect for his ability as a Commander and his unwearied attention to the comforts of the passengers during a voyage of seven weeks.

CANADIAN AFFAIRS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Toronto, June 6.

Except last night, there has been no discussion of importance in the House since I wrote you last. On Tuesday the business was got through about six o'clock; and on Wednesday the House adjourned at five o'clock to take a late breakfast with the Governor General. Yesterday J. H. Boulton's Bill to fix the time and place for the meetings of Parliament was disposed of in a more summary manner than last year [illegible]

FIXED PARLIAMENT.

Hon. Mr. Boulton moved for leave to introduce a Bill to fix the time and place for the meeting of Parliament.

The Speaker said he considered that the motion was not in order.

Hon. Mr. Boulton thought the Speaker was premature in announcing his opinion; if the question was to be decided by the Chair, he (Mr. B.) had a right to argue the question of order, which he was prepared to do. He held that his motion was not out of order. He would not now discuss the question whether his motion was opposed to the Union Act, which he believed it was not. However, if it was to be declared out of order, it was for the House, and not the Speaker, to pronounce the decision. In the United States Congress there often were questions as to the constitutionality of motions, they having a written constitution; but he believed there was no instance of the Speaker of either House taking upon himself to decide the question. The Parliament of Great Britain was omnipotent; it could pass any law. He then referred to the Rules of the House, and of the proceedings of the British Parliament, to illustrate this position. It was not a question of order, but one of law—of the construction of an Act of Parliament. It happened that the present Speaker was a lawyer, and was eminent in his profession, but it might happen that that dignified position might be filled by one not learned in the law; preposterous it would be then to make him the exponent of the laws.

Mr. Ross said, there having been no decision from the Chair, the question of order was open. Last Session, when the Bill was brought up, it was ruled that the question was out of order, and he was still of that opinion. The hon. member had said the Parliament of Great Britain was omnipotent; well, if that were the case, this House must be still higher in authority if it took upon itself to repeal an Act of that Parliament. If a motion should be made to introduce a Bill to depose the Queen, or to annex this country to the United States, would it not bring up a question of order? (No, from Mr. Boulton.) He (Mr. Ross) then read extracts from the Union Act, to show that the motion was illegal; and he held that it was not decent in the House to attempt to repeal Acts of the British Parliament. If we were to play such antics, what would the constitutional Lawyers in this House be thought of in England?

Hon. Mr. Baldwin said, the motion was a proposal to repeal an Act of the British Parliament—the very Act by virtue of which this House has an existence. The hon. member for Norfolk had last Session admitted, on a precisely similar question, that the House could not move without the consent of the Imperial Legislature. He made that admission with regard to the Clergy Reserves, when the Government were urged to introduce a Bill on the subject.

Hon. Mr. Sherwood said, that this Bill had been allowed to be introduced last year; that the hon. member himself (Mr. Baldwin) had voted for its introduction; the House was almost unanimous in voting for the motion. He denied that it was competent for the Speaker to say that the Bill should not be introduced.

Hon. Mr. Boulton said, his Bill could not be illegal, or out of order, if it contained a suspending clause preventing its taking effect till a certain portion of the Union Act had been repealed; a precedence that had been resorted to by this House in the case of the Civil List. He did not intend to say whether his Bill contained such a clause or not; but even if it did not, there would be nothing illegal in two branches of the Legislature passing the Bill. It would not then become law, and it ought to be reserved for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure. If the Union Act declared that there should be no power in this House to pass a law on this particular subject, the motion would not be out of order; if the Bill were carried to its ultimate extent in this case, it might be illegal, but would not be out of order. As to the merits of the Bill itself, it was all but universally desired by the people; they would regard it as a great boon, if they could know the day on which Parliament would meet.

Mr. Mackenzie said, this was a very important measure, and we ought to get all the reform we could in a constitutional way. The Union Act originally proposed was very different from that finally passed. It proposed to base representation on population; it was an honest good measure, and its passage was prevented by the Chief Justice writing a pamphlet on the subject; and by the defeat of the measure he saved the family compact from utter annihilation, by creating a lot of little boroughs with as much political power as the County of Middlesex. He then referred to the perambulating system the Government had adopted, saying they might possibly go beyond the Rocky Mountains or down to Gaspe. Quebec was a most inconvenient place for nine-tenths of the people of the country, and was it to be said that we could not pass a Bill recording our opinion on the necessity of fixing the Seat of Government permanently at some particular place. This plan of moving backwards and forwards, getting 1,000 packing boxes here and 1,000 boxes there, was ridiculous.

Mr. Richards contended, that, under the Union Act, the House had no power to pass the measure. He thought there should be an end to this absurd system of alternate Parliaments; but before that could be done, the present system must be tried.

Hon. Mr. Hincks said there were some persons who took a most round-about way of attaining their object; and to that class belonged the member for Norfolk, and the supporter of his motion, the member for Haldimand. An attempt to fix the time and place for the meeting of Parliament was in direct opposition to the Union Act. The case that had been cited in regard to the Civil List was not an analogous case. He concluded by stating that he hoped the introduction of the measure would be rejected by a large majority.

Hon. Mr. Boulton considered the remark made by the hon. member for Oxford as impertinent. (Cries of order.)

Hon. Mr. Hincks—I treat him with perfect contempt. (Order, order.)

Mr. Smith, of Durham, said he had referred to the Constitutional Act to see what were the powers of this Parliament. The Inspector General had said the case of the Civil List was not analogous, because there had been correspondence with the Colonial Secretary on the subject. He (Mr. S.) wished to ask those who opposed the introduction of this measure to say whether that correspondence made legal an Act which would otherwise have been illegal? Could a despatch of the Colonial Secretary set aside the constitution? He was in favour of having the time and place for the meeting of Parliament fixed, and he should, therefore, vote for its introduction.

Mr. Ross reiterated his objections to the motion.

Mr. Chauveau opposed the motion. This was an attempt to repeal a part of the very Act from which the Legislature derives its powers.

The Speaker then gave his opinion that the motion was not in order—being opposed to a provision of the Union Act.

Hon. Mr. Boulton appealed from the decision.

The question was then put to the House, and the Speaker's decision confirmed; yeas, 37; nays, 21.

BANKRUPTS.

Mr. Ross moved for leave to introduce a Bill for the relief of Bankrupts, and the administration of their effects. He regarded it as impossible that we can do without a Bankrupt law.

RAILROAD GUARANTEE ACT.

Hon. Mr. Hincks, in presenting a Return to the House, stated that it was the intention of the Government to propose changes in the Railway Guarantee Act, one of which would be to confine the guarantee to a main trunk line.

Hon. Mr. Robinson hoped it was not intended to withhold the guarantee from the Northern Railroad, which was being proceeded with on the faith of the Guarantee Act.

Hon. Mr. Hincks said it was not the intention of the Government to do any thing to violate the faith of the Legislature.

X.

TO THE HONORABLE THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF CANADA, IN PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the City of Montreal, humbly sheweth—

1st. That the Annual Reports of the Superintendent of Education for Canada East, made to the Legislature under the authority of the present School Law, are so vague and defective as to furnish in no respect what the law requires, "a detailed report of the actual state of Education." The most cursory comparison of these reports with those of the Superintendent for Canada West, will, it is confidently believed, justify this statement.

2nd. That there are abundant evidences of the defective condition of the Schools in Canada East, both from the want of suitably qualified teachers, and of a proper series of School Books.

3rd. That the schools are at present without any direct authoritative inspection and superintendence; the Superintendent not having the time to examine schools to any adequate extent.

4th. That the present law does not provide for the examination of all teachers, as ought to be the case under a system of education that aims at having a national character,—many of the teachers actually employed being withdrawn from the cognizance of the Boards of Examiners constituted under the law.

5th. That, while by common consent, good teachers are rarely to be found in this part of the Province, no provision has yet been made by the Legislature for erecting and maintaining a Normal and general Model school, as has been done in Canada West.

For these and other reasons of a similar kind, your petitioners earnestly pray for the following amendments in the existing school system for Eastern Canada:—

First.—That there shall be a Board of Education or Council of Public Instruction, as in Canada West, for advising and instructing the Superintendent in certain departments of his duties; directing the Normal School that may be established; regulating the books used in it, and in all the schools under the Board; revising the Annual Report of the Superintendent, and taking care that it shall give a full and minute account of the state and condition of the schools. Such Board to consist of nine members, of whom the Superintendent shall be one, to be appointed by the Governor, on the ground of suitable qualification, and without distinction of language or religious denomination.

Secondly.—That there shall be a Normal School, with a general Model School connected with it; such school to be located in Montreal, and to have two departments, English and French. Teachers certified as having passed through the course of instruction given in it to be, *ipso facto*, eligible to teach in the schools under the Board.

Thirdly.—That the books of the Irish National Board be used in all the schools in which the English language is taught, and that the Board of Education be empowered to have books of a similar character in the French language, compiled for schools in which that language is taught. Local Commissioners or Trustees being empowered to authorise the teachers to give instruction in religion, during such portion of the school time, each week, as the Board shall see fit to appoint; Provided always, that attendance on such instruction shall in no case be compulsory.

Fourthly.—That there shall be Local Superintendents, or Inspectors of Schools, one for each Judicial District, or such other territorial division of Canada East as to the Board may seem fit; whose duty it shall be to visit all the schools within their several bounds, as often as may be found practicable, and specially to attend at the annual public examination of every school, to authenticate the Reports of Local Commissioners and Teachers, to report their own views on the state of the schools, and the qualifications of Teachers to the Superintendent; to lecture or deliver addresses to Teachers and Parents on the best mode of teaching, and generally to promote the efficiency of the schools. These inspectors to be at first appointed by the Board, and by Municipal Councils, as in the case in Canada West, so soon as these shall be constituted in Canada East.

Fifthly.—That the Board shall have the power of examining Teachers, or of appointing several Local Boards for doing so, of which Local Boards, the Head Master of the Normal School, and the School Inspectors of their several Districts shall be ex officio members; and that no school shall receive any assistance from the school fund whose Teacher is not certified as qualified by the Examining Board of the District, within which the School is located.

Sixthly.—That it should be declared with greater precision than in the present School Act, what [illegible] the difference as between the different classes of schools that are aided by the school fund.

Seventhly.—That where difference of language prevails, the Teachers selected should be competent to teach both French and English, but that in cases where such cannot be obtained, suitable arrangements be made for forming and aiding separate schools for French or English; and that no school should receive any aid from the fund that does not submit to the regulations of the Board.

Eighthly.—That the visitors recognized by the law should be permitted to visit any school, without regard to the religious persuasion of the Teacher, or of the parents supporting such school.

Ninthly.—That no one shall be eligible as a Commissioner or Trustee of a school, unless possessed of an elementary education in English or in French.

Trinity Church Vestry Room,
Montreal, 3rd June, 1851.

At the meeting of the Central Board of the Church Society, held this day, in accordance with the Constitution, there were present:—

The Bishop in the Chair—

Reverends Dr. Bethune, Dr. Leach, J. Irwin, G. M. Armstrong, J. Ellegood, E. J. Rogers, D. Robertson, W. Bond, C. Bancroft, R. Lonsdell, J. P. White, G. deC. O'Grady, T. A. Young, J. Fulton; Hon. Judge McCord, Dr. Holmes, Dr. Howard, Dr. Hall, S. C. Bagg, Esq., J. S. Roles, Esq., W. C. Evans, Esq., Capt. Maitland.

After prayers, the Minutes of the previous Meeting were read.

The Rev. C. Morice's motion was then called, but deferred in consequence of the absence of the mover.

No Report from the Book and Tract Committee, but the Rev. E. J. Rogers, Secretary, informed the Board, that he had received from the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, a letter, stating that the Books ordered, had been sent at members' prices.

No Report from the Lay Committee.

Ordered, "That the Lay Committee be requested to take into consideration, before the next Meeting of the Central Board, the subject of Endowments now before the Board."

The Rev. D. Lindsay's letter, requesting to be instructed as to the proper form of conveying Property to the Church, was referred to the Lay Committee.

Dr. Bethune reported, "That the Education Committee had been summoned, when only two members attended, who resolved that the subject before it should be referred back to the Central Board." The subject was permitted to lie over until the next meeting of the Central Board.

The Finance Committee's Report was read, when it was moved by Hon. Judge McCord, seconded by Rev. J. Irwin, and Resolved—

"That the Report now read be received and adopted, viz:—

"That a grant of £25 be made to the Church in course of erection at Buckingham, to be paid when covered in, but that the Board cannot consider the application of the Rev. J. Flanagan, as the regulations made in the 8th and 9th articles have not been observed."

Dr. Bethune reported verbally that he had attended a meeting of the Committee for arranging the distribution of the funds of the Incorporated Church Society, that the arrangements for the Division of the Property of the Society which had been recommended by the joint Committee was unanimously approved, but it was decided that nothing could be done with reference to the transfer of the Property until the Act of Incorporation be obtained for the Diocese of Montreal, and that the Hon. Mr. Badgley, had been requested to take charge of the bill in its passage through the House.

The Secretary was ordered to communicate with the Hon. Mr. Badgley, urging him to press the bill for Incorporating the Church Society of the Diocese of Montreal through the House this session if possible, and to beg the favor of six copies of the bill when it is first printed.

Dr. Holmes gave the following notice:—"That he will at the next meeting, move that the Central Board petition the Legislature for the abolition of the labors of the Post Office on Sundays."

The meeting was closed with Prayer.

Extension of Municipalities in Lower Canada.

We notice by our Parliamentary report, that a Bill of Mr. Lafontaine, to extend the principle of Municipalities in Lower Canada, has been read a second time. The second reading of this important Bill only occupied the House a few minutes; Mr. Badgley assented to its principle; and Mr. Armstrong only asked for delay before going into Committee, that he might have the opinion of his constituents upon it; not one of the French members said a single word upon it, either of approbation or disapprobation.

The silence of the French Members upon a measure so important as this, to us seems a little remarkable; and, we very much doubt, if they, any more than their constituents, know anything about the principle of Municipalities. We think it doubtful if the French Canadians can be taught to understand a Municipal system, before their old customs be broken up, and themselves more amalgamated than at present with their English neighbours.

But before saying anything farther upon this point, we may as well state, that the principle of the voluminous Bill now lying on our table, is to apply, as nearly as different circumstances will permit, the Upper Canada system of Municipalities to Lower Canada, and to establish a system of County, Parish or Township, and Village Municipal Councils. There is at present existing in Lower Canada an imperfect system of County Councils, which in the English portions of the country are made to work well; and we believe that some of these portions of the country will be impatient of changing their present system, for the one in Mr. Lafontaine's Bill.

We are willing to believe that this gentleman is actuated with the single motive of doing his countrymen a service in the introduction of this measure; while we doubt, as likely he does too, if the principle contained in it, can be made to apply to them. The principle of municipal local self-government is one that neither his countrymen in Canada, nor the parent race in France, have ever been able to understand; and this principle, and the effects to which it has led, have formed the greatest political difference between the English and the French nations. The former practical, independent and loyal, have always insisted upon this principle, while the latter with the vain cry of glory, *liberté, egalité and fraternité* upon their lips, have allowed the Central Government to hire every labourer upon the roads in the remotest Provinces of France. So much for national instincts.

But we fear that if we look at the history of the settlement of Canada, and trace the history of these settlers since, we shall find very little to make us believe that they are fit for a municipal system such as that in Mr. Lafontaine's Bill.

The only system of local government that the French Canadians appear to understand, is that of the Roman Catholic Priesthood and the Jesuits; and under the government of these, the habitans have been brought up since the earliest settlement of the country. After the death of Louis Quatorze, and Canada had fallen into the hands of the English, almost all the higher and educated classes went back to France, leaving an illiterate peasantry under the care of the priests, who educated their children and formed their manners. [illegible] the performance of the duties of which, was the principal object of their lives. [illegible] tenaciously attached to their old traditions and associations. Even now, the great bulk of the population can neither read nor write. The institution of the Post Office is almost unknown in the country places. Their roads are of the most wretched description. Their modes of conveyance are equally wretched, and stages appear to be a thing unknown. We might enter into more minute detail, and describe their primitive ideas of agriculture and social life; [illegible] with black hair, daubs of red for the marks of blood, that one meets upon the road side, and that are enough to make the horse of the traveller shy. Yet it is to these poor *habitans* that Mr. Lafontaine intends to apply a system of Municipalities like that of Upper Canada.

Even the system of Parliamentary Representation, which may be carried out by trained leaders, is ill understood by them; nor would they even have had it, if it had not been forced on them by their British conquerors. They do not understand the principles of English freedom, but true to an unprogressive prejudice, they vote in a solid body, and their undivided vote governs Canada. Another thing worthy of notice is, that among all the reforms the French Canadians ask for, a municipal system is not one of them. The democratic, or "Young Canada" party, cry for Republican institutions without apparently any idea of this their best feature and element of safety. They cry for liberty as did Mirabeau Lafayette, and the Girondists of France, at the early periods of the first revolution, and as senselessly and vainly, without any apparent comprehension of what it consists of; while every step they take is towards revolution and ruin.

Again, we doubt if the French Canadians can be readily taught the forms of public meetings. It is true they are quiet and peaceable enough when assembled in a crowd, and will listen in an orderly manner to the speeches of an orator. But collect a delegation of them together, as for instance some of these Seignorial Tenure Conventions, and they will soon show the extent of their knowledge of forms of the business of meetings. These conventions we suppose presented a fair specimen of the intelligence of the Seignories; but, the business at them was conducted in the most loose and disorderly manner. And sure are we that with such knowledge of forms they would make droll Municipal Councils.

But we have no wish to discourage the attempt of Mr. Lafontaine, while we have very little hope that it will be successful; should it however be so, it will do the country good service. And we suppose that among a people ever so ignorant, it is a good doctrine to hold, that some time or other there should be an attempt made to teach them the principles of freedom.—*Toronto Colonist.*

Arrival of the Steamship Pacific.

New York, June 7.

The American Steamer *Pacific* arrived at her wharf to-day, making the run in 10 days and 2 hours—the quickest passage on record.

The British Steamer *Niagara* had arrived at Liverpool from Boston.

150 Hungarian refugees had embarked at Havre for New York.

Brown & Shipley's Circular says:—More doing in Corn Market, at last week's prices.

The meeting of the King of Prussia and the Emperors of Austria and Russia was to take place on the 27th instant.

At the Great Exhibition yesterday, to the great astonishment of every one present, notwithstanding the fall of the price to 1s, the entire Crystal Palace was not so crowded as usual. A rush was anticipated, and the consequence was, that a comparatively small number came.

The Clergy of the Diocese of Exeter, to the number of 44, have entered their formal protest against the Synod, to be held by the Bishop in June. The protest may thus be briefly summed up:—That the said Synod is opposed to the spirit of the Constitution of the Church; that the declaration to be issued is uncalled for; that the Synod would not be one of free discussion; that having no power of itself, it would be futile, and have the appearance of schism.

In the French Chambers there have been very violent debates. On Friday the 23rd the Minister of the interior was assailed, for the exercise of undue influence, in a recent election in the department of Landes. M. Faucher pleaded that his policy had been in the main neutral; but that he had expressed a firm opposition in the Cabinet, to the election law of the 31st of May. The defence failed. The Assembly would have been better pleased, if the Ministry had boldly declared that the movement had influenced electors in its favor. Government is using all its influence, to procure petitions to the Assembly, for a revision of the Constitution. All the English Conservative journals in the interest of President Bonaparte, and in opposition to the Republican Constitution, say that these petitions are numerous.

Liverpool Markets.—Flour—Dull at 19s @ 20s for Western Canal, 20s @ 21s for Philadelphia and Baltimore. Corn—White 31s @ 33s; Mixed 29s @ 30s. Corn Meal 15s @ 16s. Pork and Beef—Show no particular change. Lard in good demand at 50s for prime qualities. Consols—In London on the 27th, 97⅛ @ 96⅞ for money; 97⅛ for account.

PORT OF QUEBEC.

Arrived,

June 5.

Brig Gulnare, Field, 4th May, Liverpool, LeMesurier & Co, general cargo
.... Triton, Davies, 3rd May, Newport, G W Usborne, railroad iron
.... Brown, Wilson, 12th April, Sunderland, Joseph & Co, coals and coke
.... Empress, Dymond, 15th April, Liverpool, LeMesurier & Co, general cargo

June 6.

Rus Ship Emilie, Brunstrom, 19th April, Hull, order, coals and tar.
Ship Wm Botsford, Cole, 26th April, London, Benson & Co, ballast
.... Mountaineer, Crerar, 20th April, Newport, order, coals
Bark Mary, Johnston, 4th May, Liverpool, order, coals
.... Belle, Jefferson, 17th April, Hartlepool, Levey & Co, coals
.... Horten, Neilson, 3rd May, Dublin, order, ballast
Brig Lewis Law, Tillman, 18th April, Newhaven, Gordon, Wilson & Co, cordage
Schr Primrose, Joncas, 24th May, Halifax, order, sugar, oil, fish, &c

June 7.

Am Brig Mountaineer, Soules, 16th May, Philadelphia, C E Levey & Co, ballast

Cleared,

June 6th.

Ship Plantagenet, O'Brien, Liverpool, Sharples & Co.
Bark Countess of Durham, Thompson, Gloucester, H & E Burstall.
Brig Robt. Burns, Stewart, Carlisle, Symes & Co.
Brig Prince George, Young, Leith, Dean & Co.
Brig Perseverance, White, Stockton, Gordon, Wilson & Co.

Shipping Intelligence.

The steamer John Munn has nearly completed her repairs. She is now moored at the Napoleon Wharf.

The Mariner, of Glasgow, from Miramichi to [illegible], 46 35 W. all well, by the brig Brown, Wilson, was spoken 26th ult., in lat. 46 4 N. [illegible], at this port.

The Bark [illegible], Corbin, cleared at Philadelphia for Quebec on the 2d inst.

BIRTHS.

[illegible]

MARRIED.

[illegible]

DIED.

[illegible]

ST. LEON WATER.

RECEIVED THIS MORNING,—A FRESH SUPPLY of the above, direct from the Springs.
JAMES McGIBBON.
June 10. 256

CALEDONIA WATER.

SALINE, GAS, and SULPHUR WATER, received THIS MORNING, at the DEPOT, PLACE D'ARMES, Corner Great St. James Street.
All orders for WATER to be addressed to
F. DELISLE, Agent.
June 5. 250

AUCTION SALES.

A. CUVILLIER & C[illegible]
[illegible] TOBACCO, GROCERIES, [illegible] WEDNESDAY next, 11th instant, [illegible] for Sale, at the STORES of [illegible]
[illegible]
Sale at TWO o'clock.
A. CUVILLIER & C[illegible]

[illegible] TRADER FOR BYTOWN AND RIDEAU CANAL.
[illegible] Steamer RIDEAU TRADER, Captain [illegible], will LEAVE the Subscriber's Canal Basin, for the above Ports, delivering and receiving Freight at BYTOWN and intermediate places, and at all the landings on the [RIDE]AU CANAL, as far as WESTPORT and [illegible]LAND, on WEDNESDAY, the 11th inst., [illegible] o'clock, A. M.
[Fo]r Freight apply to JOHN KER.
[June] 10. 356

PORT STANLEY AND PORTS ON THE WELLAND CANAL.
[illegible] First Class Schooner, JESSIE [illegible] Captain BOYCE, is now Loading [illegible] Ports, calling at TORONTO.
[For] Freight, apply to JOHN KE[R]
[Mont]real, June 7.

WANTED TO CHARTE[R]
[illegible] A 1 VESSELS of from 250 to 300 Tons [illegible] LOAD for the CLYDE.
JOHN G. DINNING, Ship Broker.
[June] 10. 356

TO CONSIGNEES.
THE Bark "JAMAICA," JAMES PLEWES, from Liverpool, is ENTERED Inwards at the Custom House. [Consi]gnees are requested to pass their ENTRIES [without] delay.
J. G. MACKENZIE & CO. Agents.
[June] 4. 351

[illegible]TY PASSENGERS CAN BE ACCOMMODATED IN THE CABIN OF THE "HENRY TANNER," FOR LONDON. [S]AIL ABOUT THE 20TH IN[STANT]
THIS First Class coppered and fastened British-built Ship, [illegible] has been fitted expressly for [illegible] of Passengers to the Eastern Colo[nies] [illegible]
[illegible] THOMAS LIGHTFOOT, Owner.
[Que]bec, 4th June, 1851. 355

[4]TH JULY IN NEW YORK.
PLEASURE TRI[P] FROM [CA]NADA TO NEW YORK AN[D] [L]AKE CHAMPLAIN, SARATOGA AND HUDSON RIVER.
[ARR]ANGEMENTS have been [illegible] bringing Visitors from the vari[ous] [illegible] to New York, on that interest[ing] [illegible]
BUSINESS MEN AND [PE]OPLE FROM THE COUNTRY AT [illegible] find it to their advantage and pl[easure] [illegible] the Great Emporium of the New World.
AMERICAN COMMERCIAL METROPOLIS pre-eminent above all other Cities.
UNRIVALLED ATTRACTIONS!
[illegible] Theatres, Excursions in the Environs of New York, Brooklyn, Jersey City, High Bridge, Harlem, Staten Island, &c., &c.
FARE:
[Fro]m Montreal to New York and back, $7. [illegible]
CHAMPLAIN AND ST. LAWRENCE RAILROAD OFFICE.
[illegible] ROBERT SHAW.
[Ma]y 22.

IMPERIAL CUSTOMS.
[illegible] E. H. HAMILTON, [Com]ptroller of Customs and Navigation Laws.
[Mont]real, May 20, 1851. 345

100 do do Spikes
500 do do Sheet Iron
200 boxes do IC Tin
500 do G Sheet Glass, assorted
1000 Fire Bricks
1000 kegs Paint, assorted
Sale at TWO o'clock, precisely.
JOHN LEEMING, Auctioneer.
356

AMERICAN CLOCKS, LOOKING GLASSES, &c.—On THURSDAY the 12th inst., at the Stores of Messrs. LEEMING & SABINE, will be Sold, without reserve, the contents of THIRTY CASES, consisting of 6, 8 and 10 inch Eight Day and Thirty Hour Clocks, suitable for Offices, Hotels and Private Dwellings, very handsomely got-up.
26 Looking Glasses, 17 x 10.
—ALSO,—
20 dozen Silver Pencil Cases.
[illegible]

[illegible] Francois Xavier Str[eet]
Montreal, June 10, 1851.

Subjoined is one of the numerous testimonials with which the proprietors have been favored from parties residing in Liverpool and the neighborhood, where these Inks were originally introduced:—
Extract from the British Army Despatch, *March 29th*, 1851.
Blackwood & Co.'s Ink-Bottles.—This is decidedly the age of inventions. Man's mind seems ever on the stretch to fashion something new: something that will supersede and cast into shade for ever what our forefathers acknowledged as permanently staple, and never dreamt of improving. Among the multiplicity of needful adjuncts to our comfort which refinement has rendered necessary, how many trifles, insignificant in themselves, but troublesome by mismanagement [illegible] almost certain emersion in a color anything but fashionable or generally regarded as an improvement for a lady's fingers. To rectify this abominable nuisance, Messrs. Blackwood & Co. have invented an ink-bottle, elegant in form, yet exceedingly simple in construction, which wholly obviates the annoyance complained of. This capital bottle can be procured at any price, and from the smallest to whatever size may be required, and as some are constructed of glass as well as of a more durable material, the evils we have enumerated can readily be guarded against. "There is a time for all things," we are told, and as the obnoxious stone ink-bottles have had their day, and in brief time, when Messrs. Blackwood's patent becomes more generally known, such ancient receptacles for the "dingy fluid" will be numbered among the inventions of a by-gone [age].
[illegible]

[illegible] Devotion, and History, with an extended [assortment] of PICTURES and ENGRAVINGS, [at low] prices, and to suit every taste.
He invites Gentlemen of the Clergy, Merchants, Tutors, and the Public in general, to visit his Establishment. They will there find a large assortment of Books for Libraries, Prizes, and for the general wants of Families.
—ALSO,—
Paper of all sorts, Tapistry, Chaplets, Medallions, Crucifixes, Perfumery, &c.
And a quantity of other Articles too numerous to mention.
J. BTE. ROLLAND.
Montreal, June 4.

JUST OPENED,
THE MONTREAL
OUTFITTING ESTABLISHMENT,
NO. [illegible] NOTRE DAME STREET
[illegible] CO.
[illegible]
Do Dressing Gowns, [illegible]
Do Cotton, Merino and [illegible] Shirts and Pants
Do Kerchiefs, Neckties, Socks, &c., in every [illegible]
LADIES' Night Dresses, Chemises, [illegible] Pantlets
Do Dressing Gowns, Shirts, &c.
Do Mantillas, Visites, Polkas, &c.
Do Chemisettes, Sleeves, Collars
BABY LINENS, complete
CHILDREN'S DRESSES
MISSES' UNDER CLOTHING
MARRIAGE OUTFITS, to order.
TERMS—CASH ONLY, and ONE [PRICE]
Montreal, June 6.

POOR MAN'S FRIEND [illegible]

WIGS, HAIR-WORK, PERFUME[RY]
A CARD.
J. W. MACROW, begs leave respectfully to inform his friends and the public that he has REMOVED his Establishment to the BASEMENT STORY of the ST. LA[WRENCE] HALL, Great St. James Street, where he is always prepared to receive and serve his customers, in his usual style, and with the best materials.
Montreal, May 12, 1851.