THE COURIER.

MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 1851.

Railway Bubbles.

On Tuesday last a very numerous, though not very influential meeting, took place at the corner of Bonaventure street, to consider the propriety of petitioning the Legislature to grant a charter for a railway, which will be found in our columns of this morning's issue, to which we call the attention of our readers. And, in the few remarks we propose to make upon it, we confess ourselves a little out of countenance to find ourselves in the unpleasant position of having to differ from many of our friends, whose opinions we usually esteem of the highest importance. We are sorry to find that Mr. Cayley and Mr. A. Macdonald have not taken a more liberal view of this question. I the former gentleman seems to be perfectly satisfied with the fact that if Montreal should become "the port of the whole country," she would be able to command very large imports duties upon the whole of the trade which now finds its outlet to the sea through Canada, and that the whole of Canada" she would then "be able to tax the whole country!" Undoubtedly this would be true; but in no other sense than that in which Quebec at present "rivals" Boston, New York, and Liverpool, by having the largest amount of tonnage upon the St. Lawrence, and by the use that is made of it. Does Quebec, by her enormous tonnage, levy any duties upon the imports and exports of that Province? Does Montreal, by her immense trade? Undoubtedly she would, but in no other sense than that in which Quebec, at present, "rivals" Boston, New York, Liverpool, or Glasgow, by having the largest amount of tonnage upon the St. Lawrence, and by the use that is made of it. Does Quebec or