Legislative Council.

MONDAY, Aug. 4.

A despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to His Excellency, the Governor General, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, stating that it would be impossible for the Imperial Parliament to pass a bill in accordance with the address from the Canadian legislature, the present session, was read.

The bill to prevent the hunting of Deer at improper seasons, and the bill to protect Magistrates in the discharge of their duties were reported from the select committees with some slight verbal amendments.

THIRD READING OF BILLS.

The bill to amend the ordinance incorporating the City of Quebec, was read the third time and passed.

SECOND READING OF BILLS.

An Act to amend the Act for the establishment of Savings' Banks, was read the second time.

The order of the day for the second reading of the County Courts bill was, on the motion of the Hon. Mr. Ross, discharged.

The Belleville Hospital Reserves Bill was read the second time on motion of the Hon. Mr. Ross.

An Act to amend an Act entitled "Indian lands Protection Bill," was read the second time—the object of the bill being to declare who were to be entitled to the protection of the act.

The bill to enable all sums arising from the tavern license fund in the County of Kamouraska, to be applied to do our Colony, was read the second time.

FIRST READING OF BILLS.

Hon. Mr. Ross introduced a bill to extend to cities and towns certain rights under the 19th section of the School Act, now confined to the rural districts. The bill was opposed by the Hon. W. Morris on the ground that it would lead to extend the establishment of sectarian schools. He wished that the hon. gentleman would introduce a bill to do away with sectarian schools altogether. If this was not done, the country would soon become unfit to live in from bitterness of sectarian spirit.

A bill to determine the rights of certain Corporations to purchase public works, was read a first time. The House then adjourned.

TUESDAY, Aug. 5.

The Game Preservation Bill, the Magistrates' Protection Bill, the Savings' Bank Regulation Bill, the Belleville Hospital Reserve Bill, the Indian Lands Protection Bill, Lower Canada, and the Kamouraska Court House Bill, were read a third time and passed.

Several Bills were brought up from the Assembly and read a first time.

The House then adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, August 6.

Hon. Mr. Bourrett moved for leave to bring in a bill to incorporate the Berthier Academy.

The Hon. the Speaker said that such bills, according to the 54th rule of standing orders, required to be submitted to a Committee before being read a second time, and it was for the House to consider whether the rule could be dispensed with in so far as regards that bill.

Hon. Mr. Bourrett moved that the rule alluded to be dispensed with, which having been agreed to, the bill was introduced and appointed to be read to-morrow.

BILLS READ A THIRD TIME.

Bill for the transfer of Real Estate; Toronto Temperance Reformation bill.

SECOND BILL.

Hon. Mr. Ross moved the second reading of the bill entitled an Act to define and restore certain rights to parties therein mentioned. The hon. gentleman explained that this was an act to remove doubts which have arisen in regard to certain provisions of the 19th section of the act for the better establishment and maintenance of Common Schools in Upper Canada, and to extend the rights to cities and towns, already enjoyed in the rural districts under the act, and that each of the parties applying according to the provisions of the said act should be entitled to have a separate School in each ward, or in one or two wards united, as said party or parties shall deem expedient, in each city or town in Upper Canada; provided always that each such School, in its establishment and operations, shall be subject to all the conditions and obligations, and entitled to all the advantages imposed and conferred upon separate Schools by the said 19th section of the said act.

Hon. Mr. McGill objected to the bill. He thought that the principle of separate Schools was very injurious to the Province, and there was an urgent necessity to do away with the system.

The Hon. the Speaker and Hon. Mr. Bourrett expressed their concurrence in the measure.

The bill was then read a second time, and referred to Committee.

Legislative Assembly.

(Abridged from the Toronto Globe.)

WEDNESDAY, 6th August.

At the morning sitting, several private bills were advanced a stage.

Mr. H. Sherwood's bill to settle the mode of actions in ejectment, was read a second time, and referred to a Select Committee.

Mr. Mackenzie moved the second reading of the bill to provide for recording the votes of members on the final passage of bills. Mr. Bell seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr. W. Boulton; and opposed by Solicitor General McDonald, Mr. Chabot, Mr. H. Sherwood, and others. An amendment that the bill be read this second time this day six months was carried 41 to 12.

Mr. Seymour moved the second reading of the bill to extend the jurisdiction of the Division Courts Act. Mr. Sol. Gen. McDonald opposed it on the ground that the existing law had been in operation only a short time, and that no complaints had been made against it. Mr. Robinson said this latter fact furnished a good argument in favour of the present bill. Mr. Richards viewed the proposed extension as likely to bring the Courts altogether into disrepute. The "three months bill" was carried by 31 to 21.

The bill to render executory certain judgments in Lower Canada (Mr. Hamilton) was read a second time.

Mr. Bell moved the second reading of the bill for the diminution of Sunday labour in the post-office department. We are careful (he said) not to act contrary to the Imperial statutes, and we could be equally careful not to violate the Divine law. Since the opening of the last session, in fewer than 61 petitions, signed by many thousands, had been presented in favour of a measure of this kind. He proposed that the mails leaving three of the points should be closed on Sunday; and the 7th clause enabled Municipal Councils, if they chose, to close post-offices within their respective municipalities on Sunday.

Mr. Cauchon, while respecting the opinions which had led to the introduction of this bill, felt bound to oppose it, because if the principle involved were carried out to its full extent, very serious inconvenience would be occasioned to all classes.

Mr. H. Sherwood said, that the principle of closing the post offices and arresting the mail had been tried in England and found to be not had been found impracticable. If the principle were imperative, steamers carrying the mail should be stopt as soon as Sunday arrived, and not be permitted to resume their voyage until Monday. There could be no doubt that the bill would occasion inconvenience, and even loss, to the mercantile community, and he thought that it would be found detrimental to religion itself. He would leave the matter altogether in the hands of the Government.

Mr. G. Sherwood said, that the principle had been to a certain extent adopted already, and he thought that good would result from the adoption of the present measure.

Mr. Sol. Gen. Drummond, without committing himself to a rigid observance of Sunday, was favourable to the measure, which he deemed reasonable and proper. There was no danger of the principle of the bill extending to L. Canada, where the feelings of the people were averse to it. In Upper Canada, if a majority of the people desired it, they should be allowed to have it.

After some remarks (in French) by Mr. Chauveau,

Mr. Letellier moved in amendment that the bill be read a second time this day six months.

Mr. Hincks was in favour of the principle of the bill, which had been conceived in a moderate spirit. Individually, he should desire to have the post office open to some extent on Sunday; but he approved of the leading principle of the bill, which gave to a majority the power of closing the post-office, or keeping it open on that day.

Mr. H. Sherwood repeated his regret for the prejudices which prevailed on this subject, which they savoured a little of the pharisaical. The principle of the bill was a bad one, and had been adverted on in Upper Canada. If it were wrong to transmit or deliver letters on Sunday, let the Legislature say so, but not assentingly; but if there were no immorality in either, why leave petty municipalities to have power in the matter?

Mr. Price supported the bill as just in principle and reasonable in detail.

After a reply by Mr. Bell, and some remarks by Mr. Letellier, Mr. Chabot, Mr. Armstrong, and others,

The House divided on the amendment, which was carried by 49 to 24. The bill was therefore lost.

Adjournment at 2 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

The House resumed at four, and then went into Committee of the Whole on certain resolutions relating to the currency of the Province.

Mr. H. Sherwood, having in view the correspondence which had recently taken place on this subject, wished to know if the Government intended to persist in their measure of last session. He thought that if it were persisted in, there would be a probability of no small collision between the Colonial and Imperial Governments, upon a question which the latter consider as within that exclusive prerogative of the Crown.

Mr. Hincks was not minded to reply that he was prepared to take his stand on the point, that the question was one which legitimately came within the scope of colonial legislation. This was his view, and the view of the Government.

Mr. J. H. Cameron passed a very high compliment on the tone and ability which characterized the correspondence of the Inspector General with the Colonial Office, on this subject. He had displayed a thorough mastery of it, and had shown that, while the Home Government were so ready to trounce us, they themselves had forgotten something in their proceedings. He (Mr. C.) was a strong advocate for a currency exclusively of the crown, but this did not blind him to the injustice we labour under, nor did political disadvantages make him insensible of the fact that the province was under deep obligations to the Inspector General for his conduct in this matter.

Mr. H. Sherwood was also sensible of the great merit that was due to the Inspector General, and was pleasure in awarding it. He (Mr. S.) would suggest, however, that the remarks of Sir C. Trevelyan in reference to a uniform currency for the British American Provinces, were well worthy of careful consideration. The plan was very desirable, if it could be carried out.

Mr. H. J. Boulton maintained the right of the province to legislate on this subject, and condemned the meddling policy of the Home Government in relation to it. He praised the manly, straightforward manner in which the Inspector General had vindicated the dignity of this Colony; and recommended the adoption of a system of currency akin to that of the United States.

Mr. Hincks expressed the gratification which he had experienced from the expression of approval which had proceeded from the other side in reference to this matter, as it was exceedingly desirable that in such a case perfect unanimity should exist in the House. The aim of the resolutions now before the House, was to accomplish an uniform currency for British North America. The Executive Governments of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were prepared to recommend similar measures to their provinces; and it was not at all improbable, that the example would be followed by the other provinces. It was not essential to us that we should have any separate coinage, to which the Home Government had taken exception. That was more a matter of national pride than anything else; although he was satisfied that the arguments of Sir C. Trevelyan on the subject were without foundation. He (Mr. H.) was convinced that a coin of equal value to the Sovereign, but of a different denomination, would be of great service to our mercantile classes, as it would circulate in the United States much more freely than the Sovereign. The idea that we had invaded the prerogative of the Crown, seemed to him altogether untenable.

Mr. Robinson was favourable to the measure; but would remind the Inspector General, while assimilating our currency to that of the U. States, that it was equally desirable to assimilate our weights. It would be a great accommodation if we were to take their net 100 lbs. for a cwt. instead of 112 lbs.

Mr. McKenzie pointed out the manifest advantages that would be derived from having a currency uniform with that of the United States.

Mr. Smith (Durham,) was glad to find a great improvement in the tone of the hon. members' speeches on this subject. But recently, the question of the currency was a question of loyalty. Now, however, all parties appreciated the advantage of the cent system. He would remind the Inspector Gen. that, to make this measure complete, he should repeal the Statute which prevents us from keeping accounts in dollars and cents.

Mr. H. J. Boulton said there was no law of the kind.

Mr. Stevenson spoke briefly on the inexpediency of having two standards of value—gold and silver—in the same country.

Mr. Hincks replied, explaining that with regard to a silver coinage, it was intended to have it only as auxiliary to gold, and as a legal tender only in small sum times. It would not in any way effect exchanges. The object was to substitute a Provincial or British American silver coinage for the British shilling and sixpence, which are now most in use as the coins of the country, and caused great loss to those engaged in trade.

Some further conversation took place, principally on the relative constitutional rights of the Provincial Government, in the matter of currency.

The various resolutions were agreed to *seriatim*, without a division; and were afterwards reported to the House.

The House again went into committee on Mr. Hincks' bill to provide for taking the census periodically.

A debate arose precisely similar to that which took place at an earlier stage of the bill, and which was reported at the time.

Messrs. Mackenzie, Merritt, and H. J. Boulton, opposed the measure, as involving a large amount of Government patronage, and a large and needless expenditure. A machinery already existed in Upper Canada sufficient for the purpose, and it would be unjust to tax the whole Province for a system needed only in L. C.

Mr. Hincks contended that the existing law had been disregarded in Lower Canada, and hence the necessity for further legislation. In that section of the Province, the enumerators must be appointed and paid by the Government; and it would therefore be unjust to this section to compel it to bear its proportion of the expenses out of local taxation.

Extract from Report of Committee of the Executive Council on the Policy of the Government as to the Public Debt.

Mr. Thos. Baring wrote to Mr. Hincks on the 12th July, 1849, requesting a letter from the Provincial Government, stating that "it is not their intention to increase further the debt for any purpose whatever, to aid railroads or otherwise".

"The Committee of the Executive Council are of opinion that the pledge held out by the act of last session, chap. 29, to afford under certain circumstances the assistance of a guarantee of Provincial credit to certain chartered railroad companies cannot be withdrawn. The Committee, however, conceive that this will not preclude the application of the Provincial Debentures if the English market, when it is considered that, should any of the railway companies put themselves in a position to call for such guarantee, the debentures will not be the debentures of the Province, but those of the respective railway companies; that the guarantee will not be a guarantee of the capital, but of the interest only, and that on the contingency of the company being unable to pay it, a power is vested by the Customs Act, in the Provincial Government, upon being called to give such guarantee, to add ten per cent to the customs as a means of securing the necessary funds to meet the same, and also to impose such terms upon the railroad companies as may be deemed necessary before affording such guarantee."

Extract from Despatch dated July 11, 1851, from Lord Grey to Lord Elgin, on the subject of the Clergy Reserves:—

"I have now to inform your Lordship, with reference to the above communication, that from the crowded state of Parliament up to the present time, the meeting of Parliament up to the present time, the attention of the House of Commons, that it has hitherto been impossible for her Majesty's servants to submit to that House a measure for giving effect to the wishes of the people of Canada on this subject, as expressed by their representatives, and that the remaining portion of the present session would not afford a sufficient opportunity for the discussion of a measure of so much importance, and upon which, it is probable, there may be so much difference of opinion.

"In these circumstances, her Majesty's ministers are compelled to postpone to another session the introduction of a bill to which, in accordance with the intention they have expressed, it is their intention to ask the assent of Parliament.

"It has not been without great reluctance that we have decided upon thus delaying the passing of a measure, for which it appears that much anxiety is felt by the inhabitants of Canada; but, on the other hand it has appeared to us that it would be better to incur even this delay, gently as we have suggested it, than to bring this subject under the consideration of Parliament, until it should be in our power to do so in the manner best calculated to secure the success of the measure which we shall propose."

THE COURIER.

MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 1851.

It is evident, from the hurried manner in which Bills are passing through the Houses of Parliament, that this somewhat extraordinary and eventful Session is drawing to a close. What aspect the House of Assembly will present on its re-assembling, time alone can disclose. It may be that, from the more vivid impressions which the present is apt to make upon the mind when put in comparison with the past, we may be naturally inclined to give an undue prominence to the present posture of affairs; but we are greatly mistaken indeed, if over our representatives at any past time in the history of Colonial representation presented themselves anew for the suffrages of the electors with so many responsibilities and so many questions of vital importance hanging over their heads. It will, therefore, highly become those in whose hands the future destinies of the Colony are placed, so far at least as the Assembly is concerned, to exercise their privilege in a conscientious manner, and vote without fear of censure for those who in their individual opinion are most alive to the best interests of the country, whatever may be their shade of politics, and without reference to any selfish consideration, which can only actuate men of no principle—men who seek to betray rather than to preserve—men who are too corrupt to be wise, and too self-seeking to be long true to any party.

Railroads.

The consequences of disunion, and the fatal effects of distracted councils, are exhibited very prominently in the manner in which our great Trunk Railway concerns are debated by those who have, pretend to have, or ought to have, the strongest interest in promoting unanimity among its advocates, but who, on the contrary, seem to exert themselves in sowing discord, and retarding its operation by stupid doubts and wilful misrepresentations. No great national object was ever carried into successful effect without a certain degree of unanimity among those to whose hands its interests have been committed. So long as opposition and distraction prevail in its councils, defeat and disorganization will attend upon its operations as surely as the shadow follows the substance while the sun is shining.

The Quebec *Gazette*, of Friday, speaks of a Circular issued by the Mayor of Boston, intimating his wish to the Municipal authorities that they should celebrate, in an appropriate manner, "the final completion of the great lines of Railway uniting the tide waters at Boston with Canada and the Great West, and the establishment of American lines of Steamers between Boston and Liverpool." We are told that this Mayor—Mr. Bigelow—"introduces quite a formidable array of facts, to prove that Boston must be the great Atlantic Port of Entry for the Canadas, and an Export City for the West." The Quebec editor says that he introduces these remarks—as we do also—to stimulate the Canadians into defeating, as they easily can, if they be only unanimous, this somewhat sanguine anticipation of the Mayor of Boston. The *Gazette* says, very pertinently, that "had there been as much "selfish squabbling over every 90 miles "of Railway constructed by the Bostonians, as we have had about the ten-"minus of our petty line to Richmond, "we guess Mayor Bigelow would not "have been able to boast, as he does in "his circular, that Boston is now united "by Railroad and Steam Navigation "with 13 States of the Union, comprising an area of 428,795 square miles!"

One would really suppose, from the want of unanimity everywhere prevailing, and the opposition manifested to every project by which our national interests are sought to be advanced, that there are a band of secret enemies scattered among us, who are the paid agents of misrule, the promoters of misunderstanding, and the sowers of discord at all our Public Boards; so that while our neighbors are going rapidly ahead, and monopolizing our trade, we are standing still, and captiously quarrelling about a terminus or a station. What proportion does these petty considerations bear to the great and important interests of having a Railway opened up through a country which would increase the value of that country a hundred fold in five years? In a country so thinly inhabited as Canada, it is peculiarly true that land is valuable only in proportion to the easiness of its accessibility, and we are every year losing thousands of valuable immigrants, who go over into the States and settle upon land already cleared, because they fear the wilderness in Canada and hesitate to bury themselves in the forests so much farther from human habitation than they have ever before been accustomed to live, particularly when to reach their location they have to thread tracks all but impervious, and which a single month, either of summer or winter, completely obliterates. Old Country families have a very general and natural fear of travelling for hundreds of miles through the forests by compass as if they were at sea. But were a few sections of the country crossed by Railways, these fears would vanish, and the consequence would to a certainty be, that along the line of any given Railway an industrious population would in a few years spring up, creating villages and towns at the different stations, and bringing the natural riches of the interior to the termini where they could be shipped or disposed of to advantage, thus giving employment to thousands upon the line itself, and affording a handsome per-centage to the subscribers and promoters of the work. All these manifest advantages we are losing sight of, and allowing to be reaped by our enterprising and clever neighbors, who are pocketing their deservedly earned dividends, while we are squabbling about a mere trifle. There can be no doubt that Halifax is the natural and most convenient port of entry for the Canadas; but even if it were in any degree less so than Boston, so far as approach is concerned, it would be our interest to remove its local disabilities, which are by no means unsurmountable, by science and skill, and render it by proper land communication a fitting outport for our increasing Atlantic trade.

The *Montreal Transcript* of Saturday corrects a mistake into which we fell the other day, respecting "Lady Hewley's Charity." We always supposed, some how or other, that this bequest was originally put under the guardianship of the Church of England, and that by degrees the management of its funds fell into other hands. That this was not so, with regard to the Church, appears very clearly, from the very intelligent statement made by the *Transcript*. We were not otherwise interested in this bequest, nor the subsequent disputes which it occasioned, farther than by using it as a passing illustration. Neither does our mistake injure the force of our argument, so far as the rancour of the enemies of our communion is concerned. To exhibit them in their true colors we need not travel so far back in English history as the time of the *Long Parliament*, or the *Rump* either. The last six months of our Canadian annals is perfectly sufficient to satisfy the most curious enquirer on that head. Without going farther at present into this subject, we cannot avoid quoting the last paragraph of the *Transcript's* article, upon which we offer a few brief remarks,—promising that the contest for this Charity was, it appears, carried on between the Unitarians who possessed it, and the Trinitarian Dissenters who succeeded in driving them out. The *Transcript* says:—

"The English Unitarians, though not a very numerous, are a very wealthy body, and are, like the Jews, most liberal in all works of Charity and what they believe to be religion. They cared little about the endowment, but what galled them was this, that they were compellable, and liable to be so as each vacancy arose, to give up buildings which they had re-edified at their own expense, and grave-yards in which they had interred for a century or a century and a half, to their bitterest personal enemies; for all such contests become personal, and it is a melancholy and universal fact, that the leading idea of many people about religion is that it is a thing to quarrel about. To remedy this glaring injustice and cruelty, an act was passed by the Legislature, providing that in all such cases the law of private property should prevail; and that a possession by any congregation for the term of twenty years, should be a title by possession, a prescription in the French lawyers phrase, without looking to the terms of the original settlement. It was for his support of this act that the bigots of Edinburgh lost their aid to the unsenting of Mr. Macaulay."

"To remedy the glaring injustice and cruelty" which the present enemies of the Church would inflict upon us, is exactly what we want. In the case of the Unitarians, we find an Act was passed by the Legislature, providing that in all such cases "*the law of private property should prevail.*" We wonder if this "Act" has always availed them. At any rate, so far as the Church is concerned, in these Colonies, we know but too well that no "Act of the Legislature" can guard the property from the most violent attempts at spoliation and plunder. We see that vested rights are sought to be swept away at the fiat of any demagogue, or the breath of *any capitulum nonumum rerum*, who may happen to have a party on his side, or unscrupulousness enough to consider private donative charity, or public religious institution, as only cobwebs in the career of reckless innovation. There was a time in the history of England and her Colonies, when a man on his death bed could make a will, endow charities, or leave funds for building Churches, with the comfortable hope that his pious and benevolent intentions would be carried into permanent effect; but now, in these days of unscrupulous envious selfishness, an Act of Parliament, so far from protecting individual right, can pretend to penetrate into a man's most private concerns, regulate his intentions, and dictate to him a line of conduct the most opposite to his feelings and intents. An Act of Parliament can modify or obliterate the lawful testament of a man, after he is in his grave, and dictate to his heirs and successors, irrespective of that will or testament, what they are to do with his property, how it is to be applied, and for what purposes or objects expended. Act of Parliament or not, only professes to lay hands upon the property of the Church, but dares to tamper and interfere with its most solemn rites, setting them aside, and delivering over its temporalities to the greedy cupidity of its declared enemies. Churches which have been founded for the sacred purpose of disseminating the truth, the faith, the hope of the Gospel, are placed at the mercy of a clique of innovators, under the specious garb of religion, to be reduced to beggary, stripped of their funds, and exposed to the stinted charity of a cold world; while those whose end, and aim, and purpose, and very profession, is, to create division, laugh at the mischief they have occasioned. Surely the Righteous Ruler of the world, whose faith we follow, will, in his own good time, visit this iniquity upon the heads of its vile projectors, and cause his Church to rise out of the ashes and ruin in which they seek to overwhelm it.

Signor Francisco.

This noted necromancer made his third appearance on Saturday evening to a still larger audience than any of the two preceding. It is well for this gentleman that he did not live in the days of "gentle King Jamie," else a tar barrel and a burning torch would have been the end of him. We are not sure, even now, that he is not descended from some of those famous *New England* "thunder, lightening, and rain," sent after the colonization of these now religious States, and who were sent floating into the air on a cloud by the wise and enlightened judges of those days. Should he remain a few nights longer, we would advise our young friends to visit him while he is visible, because he is evidently getting thinner and thinner, and will assuredly vanish into thin air before they know what they are about.

St. Lawrence Hall.

This evening the indefatigable Manager, Mr. Skerrett, takes his benefit. The pieces selected are, "All that Glitters is not Gold," and a popular Farce. The first piece met with the greatest success on Friday and Saturday evenings. We sincerely trust that Mr. Skerrett may receive a "bumper."

MONTREAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The August display of this Society, was held yesterday, in No. 29, Notre Dame Street, the use of the building having been again kindly granted by Madame de Montenach. We may mention that the different articles shewn, were merely for exhibition, consequently no prizes were awarded.

By Mr. James Cooper—An extensive collection of gooseberries, comprising nineteen named sorts, and twenty-two seedlings. There were thirteen of the largest sorts arranged separately in a box; the sort called "Wonderful," being the largest, one berry weighing 22 dwt. 10 grs. The London, Companion, Leader, Drill, Freedom and Eagle, were also very large. Some of the seedlings were also large and of excellent flavor.

By Mr. Peter Turner, Gardener to the Hon Jas. Leslie.—Twenty-one sorts of Gooseberries, amongst which were those peculiarly fine Favored old sorts, the Ironmonger, White Smith, Warrington, and Farmer's Glory. We were glad to see amongst the Turner's collection, a good proportion of red sorts.

By Hugh Allen, Esq., President of the Society, eight sorts of the same fruit, amongst which we noticed a basket full of enormous and beautiful White Smith, and the delicious early sort called Sulphur.

By Mr. Sprigings, Gardener, to Henry Corse, Esq., six dishes of gooseberries, different sorts, including the Crown Bob, and Berry's Greenwood.

By Mr. Kerrocter—Fine samples of the White Smith and other sorts.

By Mr. McKenzie—A collection of six varieties.

We give the weights and names of thirteen of Mr. Cooper's largest sorts, viz:—Wonderful, 23 dwts 6 grs; Drill, 20 dwts 6 grs; Freedom, 17 dwts 19 grs; Companion, 16 dwts 3 grs; Leader, 14 dwts 17 grs; Eagle, 16 dwts 9 grs; London, 15 dwts 19 grs; Providence, 15 dwts 4 grs; White Smith, 12 dwts 6 grs. The Wonderful measured 4¼ inches by 7 7-16 in girth. Altogether, we think we may safely challenge America to produce a finer assortment of gooseberries.

By Mr. Turner—A dish of fine large Black Currants; also, of the true White and Red Dutch and Champagne Currants, the latter a fine fruit.

By Mr. Cooper—A large dish of excellent Black Currants.

By Mr. John Carroll, Gardener to George Desbarats, Esq.—Four kinds of Gooseberries.

By the same,—a beautiful Vase Bouquet, decorated in the centre with choice Dahlias, also a cut flower of Yucca Filamentosa.

By Mr. Sprigings,—Thirty sorts of double Hollyhocks, many of which were remarkably fine, and two Bouquets.

By J. Smith, Esq.,—eighteen blooms of Dahlias, comprising fourteen sorts.

By Mr. Turner, fifty-eight blooms of the same flower, all different sorts, and eight promising seedlings, and a collection of fine Stocks, numbering no less than seventy-five sorts, together with several Bouquets.

By Messrs. Cockburn and Brown, Nurserymen, Côte des Neiges,—Five Seedling Dahlias, fifteen varieties of Phloxes, blooms of Anemones, Begonia Burridgii, Lilium Longiflorum, Mimulus Cardinalis, six sorts of Spiræa, including B. Douglasii, a fine new variety from Western America, and three hardy heaths, named Multiflora, Tetraix alba, and McKayana.

By Mr. Archbold, Gardener to John Young, Esq.—Sixty-seven blooms of Dahlias, comprising about forty-four sorts, thirty varieties of fine double Hollyhocks, probably the best which have been shewn at any public exhibition; an assortment of fifteen fine Carnations and Picotees; seven varieties of Dianthus; blooms of the double white ragged Robin; Phœnixa Japonica; a new Scabiosa; a fine double white Campanula, and ten varieties of the Phlox.

By Mr. Cooper—A nice box of Roses, and a collection of good Balsams.

By Mr. Wilgress, Lachine—A collection of good Balsams.

By Mr. Doyle—Several fine Melons, two of them of great size and beauty, weighing together about 40 lbs. And by Mr. Turner—two fine ripe Misnieres, and one Cantelouge Melon.

This is the best show of Gooseberries, &c., which has been held in Montreal, and denotes the progress which careful cultivation is making. It still be kept open all this day for the inspection of the public.

CHURCH SOCIETY.

OFFICE OF CHURCH SOCIETY,
5th August, 1851.

At a meeting of the Central Board of the Church Society, held this day, pursuant to the constitution:

The Lord Bishop in the chair.

After Prayers, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Dr. Howard's motion was called, when after some remarks upon the subject, the motion was withdrawn.

No report from the Book and Tract Committee.

Report was received from the Lay Committee and read.

Moved by the Rev. Dr. Bethune, seconded by Rev. C. Bancroft and resolved, That the report be received and considered clause by clause.

Moved by Rev. T. Finnigan, and seconded by Dr. Holmes in amendment, That the 1st clause in the report of the Lay Committee, be not adopted; and that the Society grant be continued to Rev. J. Pyke, according to the original intention; but with the understanding that this case shall not form a precedent for future cases, when the property is not regularly deeded to the church.

Moved by the Rev. Dr. Leach, seconded by Rev. E. Lonsdale, and resolved, That the 1st clause of the Lay Committee's report be adopted, viz:—

"That this Committee views with pleasure the active exertions made in several of the Missions of this Diocese, towards the establishment of some permanent endowment for their respective Missionaries, and have received various applications for assistance towards this object, out of the funds of the Society; but regret that no action can be taken by them until the favorable intentions of the Society for the propagation of the Gospel be made known.—should that venerable Society be pleased to place immediately a certain sum of money at the disposal of this Society, advantage might be taken of the present good-will of the inhabitants (called into existence by the hopes of aid being held out to them by the Society at home,) which, if not at once accepted, may be lost."

The Finance Committee's report was then read, when it was moved by Judge McCord, seconded by S. C. Bagg, Esq., and resolved, That the report of the Finance Committee be received and adopted.

No report from the Education Committee.

No report from the Convocation Committee.

Ordered, That Major Campbell, Col. Wilgress, and John Abbott, Esquire, be added to the Committee.

Moved by the Rev. C. Morice, seconded by the Rev. C. Bancroft, That a Committee be appointed to reconsider the subject of Insurance of the lives of the Clergy; and that the Committee consist of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, Chairman, Capt. Maitland, Rev. J. Flanagan, Rev. Dr. Bethune, Rev. C. Morice, and W. C. Evans, Esq.

Ordered, That T. Evans, Esq., be requested to invest, with the advice of the Lay Committee, the monies in the hands of the Treasurer, belonging to the Widows and Orphans Fund.

The meeting was then closed with prayer.

W. BOND,
Secretary.

From California.

BY THE EMPIRE CITY.

By this arrival we have full files of San Francisco papers to the 1st of July, fifteen days later than our previous advices. The intelligence is both interesting and important. Notwithstanding the losses consequent upon the fire, it is the opinion of many of the most intelligent passengers by the Empire City that the accounts from California have seldom been more favorable than at present. The fire burned over a large extent of ground, but the buildings destroyed were not of the first class, and much better ones were in the process of erection when the Panama left San Francisco. Notwithstanding this loss the business prospects of the country were good, and the accounts from the mines, especially where the quartz operations are carried on, were encouraging. No former steamer, we believe, has brought as large a sum in gold as the Empire City on her present trip; in addition to which, two other steamers will arrive in the course of a day or two, with further sums brought from San Francisco by the two steamers which left on the same day as the Panama.

THE FIRE AT SAN FRANCISCO.

The burned district extends down Broadway to Kearney street, along Kearney, taking both sides, to Pacific street, down Pacific to Ohio, and along Montgomery street, taking in on Jackson and Washington streets a small portion below Montgomery to Washington, up Washington and Clay streets to Dupont, along Dupont to Washington, up Washington to near Stockton and crossing over, along Stockton to Pacific, and up Pacific to the house where the fire originated, near the corner of Powell street.

The house where the fire originated was situated on Powell street, between Jackson and Pacific, and owned by Messrs Kirby and Bennett. One of the owners, Mr. Kirby, occupied the kitchen in company with Mr. Lippencott. The parlor, front rooms and attic were occupied by Messrs. Delessert, Ligeron & Co., bankers. Mr. Kirby states that no fire was used about the house for any purpose whatever. It is therefore concluded that the fire was the work of an incendiary.

Charles S. Lyons was found burned to death on Jackson Street, between Dupont and Kearney. No particulars could be obtained concerning the manner of his death.

Mr. Bach, of the firm of Bach, Burnett & Co., was burned to death in endeavoring to save his storeroom.

Geo. Hubbard, a native of Scotland, about 40 years of age, who had been confined to his bed in a house in Jackson street for eight days past, expired while being removed to the Plaza.

It is understood that the committee of vigilance made a large number of arrests, on charges of incendiarism and theft committed during the fire. Three were tried and honorably acquitted. Others are still ironed and held in custody for future examination.

There is no doubt that this terrific fire was the work of an incendiary. The time selected was a good one for it, as people was going to church on Sunday morning, and the place upon a hill, from which the fire must have inevitably spread to the whole city. Probably about five hundred houses and three million dollars worth of property have been destroyed.

This fire, although small in comparison with the last, has fallen upon a class of citizens who were illy able to bear it. Most of them are poor men, men whose all was invested in the houses and goods which have been destroyed. A great deal of lumber has been burned up, and it will be a long time, we fear, ere our burned district is built over again.

The thanks of the citizens of San Francisco are due to Lieut. McGowan, of the revenue cutter Polk, who with twenty-five men labored manfully in combatting the flames on Washington, Stockton and Jackson streets.

There was evidently an arranged plan to set fire to and consume the city. Long before the fire reached in that vicinity, a man was discovered attempting to set fire to Pacific street wharf. He was arrested and it is understood was handed over to the Vigilance Committee. The portion of Marvin & Hitchcock's building, occupied by Louis Killeir as a sugar store, was fired in the rear by some one who broke one of the panes of glass in the sash of the door leading to the yard, and set fire to the curtain of the window; the spark of the match ignited for the purpose is visible on the door.

FURTHER INCIDENTS OF THE FIRE.

The sun broke clear and beautiful yesterday morning upon the space covered with the smoking ruins left from the fire on Sunday. Over the entire limits of the burned district, the only buildings left standing were those which were saved on the Plaza, and scattered over the ground stood here and there brick chimneys, looking like sad monuments erected to the memory of our apparently doomed city. Goods of every description, smouldering and ruined, lay scattered through the streets and over the burned square. A few blackened tottering walls still remain. Goods which were carried to the Plaza, and on the surrounding hills were being removed.—Many, however, had no place to remove to, no shelter to cover them, and were in extreme destitution.

A large number of men, women and children, whose goods were moved on to the hills at the head of Montgomery and Kearney streets, in the open air with them during the night, partly to watch them and because they had no place to go to. A large portion of the ground burned over, particularly that part extending from Stockton street and from Broadway to Jackson, was occupied by the poorer class of French and Mexican laborers, washerwomen, keepers of tippling shops and dance houses, who lost everything they possessed in the world. The houses were generally occupied by mechanics and working men, and were the principal sources of their income. Immediately after daylight many persons commenced removing the rubbish from their lots. A few tents were put up among the ruins, and already on Washington street, below Kearney, five buildings are in process of erection, and will be finished tomorrow or next day. Above Kearney three or four more are raised, and Clay, Dupont, Kearney and Pacific streets will doubtless be in process of building in a few days. As yet the ruins are still smouldering in many places with so much heat as to render it impossible to remove them. The streets upon Pacific, Dupont, Kearny, Montgomery and a part of Washington streets are rendered almost useless and will have to be repaired before the street cars can run. The street commissioner will be required to exhibit some energy on the part of our city council to enable them to repair the city's loss.

Dr. Delpeit, a French physician, residing on Pacific street, nearly opposite the Polus, discovered his property on fire in the rear, long before the fire had reached it from the adjoining buildings, when he was shot in the heel with a pistol ball—probably by the incendiary.

SUMMARY OF EVENTS.

Within the past fortnight the body of citizens in our city known as the vigilance committee instituted for the prevention and punishment of crime, have largely increased in numbers in efficiency, and by their moderation and enlightened policy pursued with unflinching vigor, they have secured the confidence of the committee, who have come to look to them for protection in the hour of danger. Their exertions to rid the city of the gang of desperadoes that have so long infested it have so far been crowned with success. Hundreds of the vilest have been forced to leave the city, others are now in confinement, and will be sent back to Sydney at an early opportunity.

Other cities in the interior have imitated the example of San Francisco, and have instituted branch vigilance committees, who act in concert with the parent body. It is probable that such branches will be established throughout all the settled parts in the country, when by concert and concurrence, speedy justice will be sure to overtake every criminal, however rapid or remote his flight.

Throughout the mines the same strict administration has been exhibited to bring offenders to justice. Many executions have taken place of those who have been found clearly guilty. In several instance, the trial by jury and the lire honorable forms of the law have been observed, and there is no reason to suppose that a single individual has suffered unjustly.

The Indians in the Mariposa district have been pacified. The Indian commissioners are now in the Southern part of the state, endeavoring to treat with the tribes along the Colorado and Gila. In the Nothern mines Indian disturbances are ceasing, but not to any serious extent, and it is hoped that the efforts now being used by the commissioners will bring them to terms.

Intelligence has just reached us of a disastrous attack by the Rogue river Indians, upon the settlement at Port Orford in Oregon, by which all the whites were cut off to a man.

The political cauldron is boiling. The nominations of both parties have been regularly made, and the various nominees are traversing the state addressing large meetings in all the leading settlements. Considerable spirit is manifested in the mines, and in certain portions great interest is exhibited in the result of the contest. Both parties are confident of success, and until the votes are counted it would be impossible to hazard a conjecture as to what will be the result.

All accounts from the mines concur in representing the yield this year as greater perhaps than ever before. The quartz mines both North and South are becoming every day more developed, the results thus far exhibit them as astonishingly rich, and abounding throughout the whole mining district. New veins are being constantly discovered, and large amounts of capital have been invested in machinery to extract the rich deposits of gold from the rock. The yield from this source is becoming an important item in our exports of gold.

FROM THE WEST INDIES.

We have copious files of Jamaica and other West India journals, down to the 26th ult., inclusive.

Four persons were drowned at Port Royal on the 21st July, by the upsetting of a boat, among whom was the Rev. Mr. Cahusac, who had taken his passage for London, and was then going on board the ship.

The accounts from the localities visited by the cholera are somewhat more favorable. At Westmoreland the disease had nearly disappeared. It had re-appeared in the town of Lucea, which suffered greatly last year. At Savanna-la-Mar it was still fatally prevalent, though the deaths were reduced to about seven per day. There have been nearly 300 deaths from the commencement of the disease.

The Falmouth Post and Cornwall Chronicle speak of the sugar crops as likely to prove below the average in those districts, though the cane has been improved by copious rains.

The Kingston Asylum for the sick poor is to be discontinued, the city being unable to support it.

Dr. Reid, a traveller through the highlands of Peru, found lately in the desert of Atacama the dried remains of an assemblage of human beings, five or six hundred in number, men, women, and children, seated in a semi-circle as when alive, and staring into the burning waste before them. They had not been buried; life had not departed before they thus sat around; but hope was gone; the Spanish invader was at hand, and, no escape being left, they had come hither to die. They still sat immovable in the dreary desert; dried like mummies by the effect of the hot air, they still keep their position, sitting up as in solemn council, while over the dread