

ve so completely esteem of those with them as has ngst our French is his name is a in the history uppy a foremost oted and fearless may live to see the episcopate, and be it, is the sincere Catholics of Can-

BISHOP OF HAL-

of the Rev. Dr. esse of Charlotte- the vacant Arch- , has given gen- only in the s, where he is oughout the Do- biding republic, , piety and zeal deservedly high estimation. The relate has had an and distinguished orn about forty Glasgow, Queens' seventeen miles , the capital of was at an early Dunstan's College that institution, eral years, his re- and quickness of y a retentive and ron him decided conclusion of his tan's he went to his theological pital of Christen- lung to him, for 68 carrying off a n City during re by the Sardin- untann of 1870, in as elevated to the s return to Prince was for a time as- the Cathedral, but igned rector of ollege, his alma e was given pas- ndian River and Co., P. E. I. Over O'Brien watched and success till to the highest ec- in the Maritime tropolitan see that lustrious in Holy ghted and noble- that have preceded are of his pastoral en indited a re- entitled, "Philos- Vindicated," which 1876. In this re- he learned writer rious systems and ed and sustained iples of Christian- Christian doctrine l point of view, k into three parts, r, psychology, and y connected with tes the Darwinian to be subversive eason, and deals ef- he inconsequential tendencies of the on. In the preface author declared it endeavor to popu- ics of metaphysics e in some degree a ead of irreligious So praiseworthy an so ably pursued f attainment. The y read and received from leading theo- osophical writers in erica. Dr. O'Brien a great work, made tributions in prose ous American jour- test against the god. m foisted some years of unprincipled poli- e of Prince Ed- O'Brien took de- fence of the rights nity. By voice and ed the introduction "non-sectarian" sys- y earned the lasting vity of the Catholics ily, but of all who naining in the schools In his new and en-

larged sphere of action, Dr. O'Brien will have a wide scope for the display of his great talents and varied learning. He has been summoned at a remarkably early age to the metropolitan dignity of one of the most important ecclesiastical Provinces of Canada, a Province which includes, besides the Archbishopric of St. John's, N. B., and Chatham. But Dr. O'Brien, though young in years, will be found equal to the duties of the position upon which we venture to predict he will shed a lustre and renown that will make Halifax a more honored name than ever in our ecclesiastical annals. We congratulate the people of Halifax on the choice made by the Holy See, of a prelate in all respects so worthy for their widowed and sorrowing church, and extend Dr. O'Brien our hearty wishes for success and happiness in his episcopal career, and pray that God may long spare him to rule the historic See of Halifax.

THE DEMOCRATIC VICTORY.

The elections which were held in the neighboring republic last week resulted in a complete democratic victory. Great interest was manifested in the gubernatorial elections in the states of New York, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. In the two former, the candidates who received the regular republican nominations were men whom many in the party looked upon as mere tools of the national administration, which is supposed to be under the control of the stalwart section of the republicans. It was, besides, considered by many earnest men in the ranks of that party that neither Mr. Folger in New York, nor Mr. Beaver in Pennsylvania secured their nominations by honest means. The dissatisfaction in the latter state assumed definite shape by the nomination of a regular independent republican ticket, and in New York found strong expression in journals hitherto noted for devotion to the interests of the republican party. The republicans in these states went, therefore, to the polls laboring under the disadvantage of disunion and disaffection in their ranks. In Pennsylvania Mr. Pattison, the Democratic nominee for governor, was elected by a plurality of 32,000, and in New York Mayor Cleveland, of Buffalo, whom the democrats had placed at the head of their ticket, defeated secretary Folger by a majority of about 196,000 votes, the largest ever given a candidate in any state election. The largeness of the majority was a complete surprise to both parties, and will, no doubt, serve to convey this most wholesome lesson to the republican party managers, that they cannot with impunity force on their adherents nominations obtained through fraud or dishonesty. In New York and Pennsylvania the leading supporters of the regular republican nominees acted in a manner so high-handed towards the independent electors, who generally adhered to their party, as to give them the very deepest offence. The result is what was anticipated by all but themselves. The Cameron influence in the first and the Conkling-Arthur domination in the second-named state, have been completely wiped out. New York may, with good management on the part of the victors, be safely counted on as a democratic state for many years to come. Mayor Cleveland will enter office under the most favorable auspices. He has everything in his favor. He is not tied down by alliance with any of the powerful rival factions of the party in the metropolis, and can afford to take an independent line of action, fearless of threat and regardless of intrigue on the part of any of them. If, as it has been said, the governorship of New York is a safe stepping-stone to the presidency, Mr. Cleveland, with his 200,000 majority as a commendation from the electorate of that great commonwealth, may, if impelled, as almost all men are impelled, by an ambition which success only seems to heighten and intensify, look forward with every prospect to the democratic nomination for the Presidency in 1884. In the state legislature the democrats have a safe working majority. We trust that one of the first acts of the new legis-

lature will be the placing of Catholics in prison, reformatories and all the public institutions of an elemosynary character, supported by state funds, on a footing of equality as far as regards religious instructions and worship, with persons holding any of the various forms of Protestant belief. It is a disgrace to the Empire State that the inequality and injustice now existing in this regard should have so long continued. The result in Massachusetts, where Gen. Butler has been chosen governor, was a real surprise to many. We are glad to notice that Gen. P. A. Collins has been chosen to Congress by the old Puritan state. Everywhere, in fact, from New Hampshire to Texas, the democrats have made heavy gains. The South is as "solid" as ever, if we except Virginia, which, for the moment, has been drawn off by Mahone from its old moorings. The next Congress will, as far as the house is concerned, be democratic by a large majority. The Senate will, it is now thought, be controlled, though by a small majority, by the same party. The result of the contest gives the democrats the vantage ground for the Presidential campaign in 1884, but their success then will entirely depend on their course of action during the next two years.

HOME RULE.

Every one remembers the scorn and derision with which Englishmen in general received the movement for Home Rule at its inception. No words could be found strong enough to emphasize the contempt with which the just demand of the Irish people was met. But the latter never lost faith in the justice and ultimate success of the agitation for self-government. They knew that in their efforts to obtain this primary and absolute right of every people they would have the sympathy and support of every free people in the world. Time has shown that in this expectation they have not been deceived. In his famous Scottish campaign of 1879, Mr. Gladstone distinctly professed himself in favor of a scheme of home government not only for Ireland, but for England and Scotland. For the two latter there is not the same pressing necessity for this reform as there is in the case of Ireland, for the Imperial Parliament legislates in all matters of local and national concern to their people, in accordance with their wishes. We are glad to see the Premier returning, as his recent utterances on the subject prove he has returned, to the views he then expressed on this all-important subject. Owing to these declarations it is now claimed that the cause of Home Rule in Ireland is placed upon a practical political footing, and enjoys a standing before the government "as astonishing as it was unexpected."

It is not improbable, we are now informed, that one of the earliest steps will be the granting of elective county boards, with the right to nominate sheriffs and magistrates, elect boards of education, poor laws, and public works. It is very justly claimed that this can be done without any danger of disintegration, and, it is held by Liberals that Mr. Gladstone has only fairly stated the present disposition of the Government towards the subject.

We also learn that a great change has come over English opinion on the Irish question. It is indeed pleasing to note that Mr. Davitt's utterances are now spoken of by Englishmen as arguments, instead of treason and incendiaryism, and that any rational project looking to the alleviation of existing grievances, the betterment of the tenant class, and the general improvement of the country, receives consideration. Persistent and intelligent agitation, the gradual subsidence of agrarian outrages, and the disappearance of the dynamite element have, we are told, brought about this feeling, and unless some wholly unexpected contingency arises, Home Rule will shortly be accepted as a natural and peaceful incident of the political progress of the country.

How times do change? What have those who have so recently denounced the late national conference

in Dublin, to say to this its first product?

THE BAZAAR.

We beg once more to remind our readers that the bazaar in aid of St. Peter's Cathedral, now in course of erection in this city, will be held here during the Christmas holidays. We have already published the list of prizes which will be offered for drawing at that time. No such list was ever placed before the public in Canada. Since its publication it has been largely increased by the presentation of many valuable gifts from friends throughout the country. We earnestly recommend this good work to all our readers, and feel satisfied that if they do their duty in the matter, as we know they will, the success of the bazaar will be a matter of hearty gratification to all interested in the progress of religion in this Province. All persons desirous of making returns or soliciting information should at once place themselves in communication with the Rev. Father Cornyn, who, having the matter in hand, will be at all times ready to meet their wishes.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

On Friday, the 10th inst., was celebrated the fifteenth anniversary of the consecration of His Lordship the Bishop of London. The assembled clergy of the diocese, at the moment engaged in the exercises of the retreat, could not allow the occasion to pass without giving him cordial and unanimous expression of their good will, attachment, and fidelity to His Lordship. The bishop kindly acknowledged the hearty congratulations of his clergy. He referred to the earnest support he had always received from them in every important work and at every critical period in the history of the diocese, and assured them of his heartfelt gratitude for all they had done to promote the prosperity of his diocese. His Lordship's many friends throughout the Dominion wish him many long years of happiness and success in his present distinguished position. It may be interesting here to remark, that of the bishops who held sees in the Province of Ontario at the time of Dr. Walsh's consecration, His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto alone survives.

The annual retreat of the clergy of London, which began on the 6th of November, terminated on Saturday morning last. There was a very large attendance of the priests from all parts of the diocese. The exercises of the retreat were conducted by the Rev. Father Ryan, S. J., Montreal. His discourses, characterized by an earnest and winning impressiveness, were also of a certain masterpieces of theological learning and ascetic research. Father Ryan will always be gladly welcomed by the clergy of London to preside over the exercises of their annual retreat. While in the city the rev. gentleman delivered two remarkable discourses in St. Peter's Cathedral—the first on the Communion of the Saints, and the second on devotion to the Blessed Virgin. For consecutiveness of thought, strength of reasoning, and chasteness of diction these discourses could not be surpassed. The rev. father left London on Monday last for Montreal.

Gen. Wolsey has been refused the freedom of the city of Dublin. We cannot feel surprised at this action of the corporation of the Irish metropolis, when we bear in mind that the *Freeman's Journal* openly accuses him of having expressed to the government a strong desire to be given control of all military matters relating to Ireland, with the view of completely suppressing the alleged disorder in that country.

FRANCE is, according to a leading Parisian journal, threatened with serious financial complications. *Le Journal des Debats* calculates a deficiency in the present financial year of 60,000,000 francs, and possibly 150,000,000. The announcement of this unexpected state of affairs has produced a very serious effect in French financial circles. If the actual state of the revenue be such as stated, it is impossible to foresee what troubles may arise therefrom. Another communitarian uprising would not, in that eventuality, be a surprising occurrence.

In three German Provinces, Hanover, Hesse-Nassau, and Schleswig-Holstein, there were, in 1881, amongst the Protestant population, 134,269 births. Of this number, there were 8,324 who did not receive the rite of baptism in any form.

Amongst the same population, there were in 1881 31,546 civil marriages contracted, of which 2,922 were entered into without any religious formula whatever. These figures point to a very sad state of things amongst the masses of the people in certain parts of Germany.

The Savoyard prince, for the time installed in the Quirinal, has received another very decided snub. The Emperor Francis Joseph has, no doubt for reasons of state, found it inadvisable to return in Rome King Humbert's visit to Vienna, and informed His Sardinian Majesty of his inability to do so. A cablegram conveys the statement that King Humbert, perceiving the impossibility of the emperor's visiting Rome, has written thanking him for his courteous intentions, and assuring him that he considers the visit paid. This is indeed quite refreshing, coming even from a royal mind. King Humbert's royal visitors at Rome will be few and far between. He can express thanks to them for good intentions, but not for the courtesy of actual visits.

It is stated that in the Kingdom of Hungary 80 per cent. of the Free Masons are Jews, and that of the remainder, fifteen per cent. at least hold relations of cordiality and intimacy with Jews. In Hungary, Jew and Free Mason are, it appears, almost synonymous. At this very moment, there is, not only in Hungary, but throughout the whole Austrian dominions, a deep feeling of animosity amongst the masses of the people towards the Jews. May not this animosity be attributable to their Masonic bond of unity? It should not, indeed, be an excuse for, though it may be the explanation of cruelty practiced towards them.

MARMION AGAIN.

Bishop Cleary on Education—Opinion of Impure Literature.

Kingston Whig, Nov. 6.
Last evening Bishop Cleary again preached upon moral education—the third of a series of very able sermons. His text was the same, "We are the children of saints," &c., (Tobias ii. 18) words which he desired to become household words in this parish. They expressed the faith of the children of Israel, they sustained the holy man and his family in the days of their captivity, and our fathers and forefathers in the 300 years of their persecution in Ireland. He then addressed himself to Christian parents in regard to the training of their children, dwelling (1) upon the trust bestowed by God upon man of caring for the lives of their offspring, of protecting the soul, destined to live forever in the mansions above; (2) the solicitude of the Christian mother to have her babe baptised, thereby receiving divine life within the soul, a spiritual substance, intangible, invisible, but real, and thenceforth living by a twofold principle of vitality, the natural and the supernatural; (3) the importance of correcting evils in youth, the small vice in the boy becoming a great one in the man; (4) the result of careful training and good example as displayed in the life of Louis of France, who never forgot his mother's teaching; and twice took up the banner of the cross and fought the infidels in Africa; (5) the danger encountered by the son when he has rounded into boyhood, when he has reached the turning point in his life, when he wavers, seems unhappy, is thoughtful and unsettled, easily influenced and takes the steps that lead to ruin or salvation; (6) the necessity of guarding against bad examples, bad language, bad manners, bad companions and impure literature. Thus his Lordship reached the point to which all his discourses have tended. He was shocked with the obnoxious literature to be found in the steamboats, on the cars, everywhere he went. Nothing could be more filthy and abominable than some books and newspapers if the devil had appointed a special committee to compose and print them. Their purpose was corrupting. He picked up a book recently on a steambot; it had been side by side with bibles, revised editions, and was of a most objectionable description. He asked how books, so destructive of virtue, could be retailed, and the reply came, "Oh, that's the kind we sell most of."

A GREAT DEAL DEPENDS upon the supervision of the young at the period when their intellects as well as their passions are being developed. Upon their position then depends the direction of their future lives. Above all upon the school text books depend lasting impressions. Why? Because they have the stamp of authority, are regarded as guides, and the contents of them, by obedient and docile persons, are taken into the very soul. A text book is not read as ordinary prose or poetry, but, for the purpose of examination, studied with intense ardour, with an application not only disturbing to rest but digestion. Such being the case it is expedient or right to place in the hands of the boy and girl whose character of life has not yet been determined, whose resolution is not yet tried, as a standard of judgment and taste, a book containing an impure plot, the narrative of a man and woman in immoral intrigue, their appearance and manner described in a glittering, fascinating way? Parents who countenanced such described to have impure children; the high minded parent would take the book and burn it before his children's eyes and fling them if he found them with it like again. Ah, there is something wrong in Canada when that which is foul and abominable is approved by the guides of education. In England, when boys learn Latin and Greek classics every book put into their hands has everything in it that is licentious and demoralizing expurgated. Yet here, a book is placed in the hands of the student and the foul thing must be branded on the mind. No one can say that it is a proper

thing for the girl reared in her virtuous parent's home, whose month has never spoken aught but that which is modest and pure, that anything so filthy as the recital of Marmion's relations with Constance should be impressed upon her memory and made familiar to her lips, or that it should even cross her imagination. Young people cannot stand a subject without in asking talking of it, if the mind be full the mouth will speak. The impression created by text books is almost ineffaceable. When he was a boy taking his College course

GOLDSMITH'S SCHOOL HISTORIES WERE STUDIED.

There could not be more beautiful reading, nothing more fascinating, but the writer being a Protestant, whenever the Catholic Church came into conflict with any opposing force—resisting tyranny, immorality, encroachments upon her religion (as she has always done and will do until the foundations of earth have dissolved)—he condemned her, and the names of the most glorious defenders of Christian liberty were mentioned with contempt, and his mind received the unjust and unholy impressions which were effaced only by his studies in mature age. The Archbishop of this Province—a man of age, merit, long service, learning, self sacrificing and holy—is a dictator, a milkop, because he objects to the placing of an impure book into the hands of those whom he is bound to protect. It is said the Bishops have no right to interfere in these matters. His Lordship said they had; as pastors they should guard the young, even to the laying down of their lives in order to do so. It could not be said that the book was not offensive when it contained so many of the soldiers inspired by Henry VIII, the stories collected and invented at his instigation in order to destroy the Catholic institutions of piety and give him ground for appropriating the property of the Church. Why was such a work imported into Canada? What it says of the dungeon 100 feet deep and the murders and other crimes committed by the monks cannot be proved, and is a pure invention of the imagination, the outcome of English prejudice. In the history of 1300 years neither priests nor nuns have been guilty of cruelty. So careful is the Church in the selection of candidates for the ministry that she will not admit to the sacred calling any one who has imbued his hand in human blood, any one who has sat upon the bench and pronounced a sentence of capital punishment, any member of the legal profession who has pled the case against the criminal, anyone who has had to do with crime or cruelty. The world knows all this, that out of the hundreds of millions consecrated to the service of the Church by religious vows in the course of eighteen centuries, none can be shown

GUILITY OF THE ATROCITIES depicted in Marmion. Then why are they repeated? Simply to engender a hatred of the Catholic Church. Is it fair for the present or next generation to transport from England that which is prejudicial, which has been a source of strife and internecine war for 300 years? Is it not enough that Ireland and England should be opposed to each other for so long a period, creating a catalogue of crime which cries to heaven for vengeance? For the life of him he could not understand why Marmion, the most offensive of the 113 works of which Scott is the author, should be selected as a school work, or why an effort to undo the mischief has been opposed, or how a clergyman could enter the pulpit and endorse the poem as proper for moulding the tastes of young people. There was a reason for it; it would be apparent by and bye. He now came to compare the systems of education as they have existed in Ireland and Canada. He pointed out that the Church opposed Queen's College and the Model Schools of the old land because, as conducted, the Pope has pronounced them intrinsically dangerous to the Catholic faith and morals. The statutes of Canada differ very little from those of Ireland in the abstract, but there is a wide difference in the working of the two systems. The key to the condemnation of Queen's College and the Model Schools of Ireland lies in one little clause of the Pontiff's documents that the institutions are dangerous to faith and morals not only through the want of guarantee against bad books and proselytizing teachers, but by reason of the motive attributed to the Government in founding them—to do by means of education what the dungeon and gibbet failed to accomplish. How does the system in Ireland differ from that of Canada. In the spirit of the Government. In Ireland it is hostile, crafty; in Canada it is such as to inspire confidence, to make people feel that they are on an equality, that there is justice, equity, fairness and freedom among men, determination to do the right.

He allowed his children to enjoy the school system, because he was not afraid of injury thereby to their faith and morals. He had been over most of his diocese, and he had still fourteen counties, and he had enquired about the education of the children, and had yet to hear the first complaint regarding conduct of the teachers in the public schools. Suppose this was not the case, that the Bishops of 300,000 or 400,000 people had reason to believe that the faith and morals of the children were being tampered with and confidence destroyed, if they did not interfere what would be thought of them? And if they were forced to withdraw their little ones from the centres of higher education, the war of creeds and races then begins. The Bishops must protect their flocks, they must preserve their rights, they will not be silenced in the discharge of their duty. They knew what came of conflict in Ireland, Italy, Germany, France, wherever the Church was brought into collision with the civil authority. There has been strife, anger, recrimination, murder, social disunion. Men who loved each other one day hated each other the next.

Christian Grumblers.

Every Catholic pastor is more or less annoyed by a certain class of grumblers who are never satisfied with anything that he may undertake for the good of the people who are under his charge. The pastor may combine lofty eloquence and far-seeing wisdom with untiring zeal, still there are those among the parishioners who will be dissatisfied. If the pastor allows a debt to accumulate upon his church they say that he is not sufficiently energetic. If, on the

contrary, he puts forth, from time to time, appeals for financial aid, in order that there shall be no such debt, they charge that he is continually begging. Their grumbling is especially directed against the special collections which many pastors are, from time to time, obliged to institute. In fact, they object to every form of collection. They claim that they do not wish to be obliged to buy their religion. Their claim is, undoubtedly, logical, for the reason that the use to which they put religion would not justify a large outlay.

CATHOLIC LITERARY SOCIETY.

On the evening of Thursday the first annual gathering of the Roman Catholic Literary Society of this city, was held in their rooms, Albion Building. The Vice-President, Mr. P. Mulhern, occupied the chair; Mr. M. J. Gleason acting as Secretary. The absence of the President and founder of the society, Rev. Father O'Mahony, was greatly regretted. The prospects of the organization for the coming season are most favorable. Following is a summary of

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The report of the Management Committee was read by the Chairman. Since the organization of the Society a year ago 64 persons have been accepted as active and honorary members, and of these 48 have signed the roll of membership. Suitable rooms, adequately furnished for amusement and recreation, were secured, and last winter these were well patronized. Two billiard tables were purchased, also playing cards, dominoes and draughts. The reading rooms are always supplied with the city papers. The Society is indebted to Mr. Thos. Coffey for a gratis copy of the Catholic Record and for many exchanges. The revenue from the billiard-table, by means of the small fee charged, amounted to \$171.20. Improvements in this department are contemplated. The success of the literary object of the Society has given fair satisfaction. The fortnightly entertainments were of an interesting character. Abundant latent talent has been displayed by all who took part in the exercises, and your Board confidently predicts that the result of these entertainments will be a benefit not only to the members taking part themselves, but the Society will ultimately be most beneficial to the whole Catholic community. It is recommended as soon as the means at the disposal of the Society will warrant the outlay, that a library be procured, and the members be impressed with the necessity of any assistance in their power towards this object. Your President, Rev. Father O'Mahony, kindly presented some volumes as a nucleus of a library. Books were also contributed by other members. The total receipts for the year were \$447.06, including membership fees, \$284.75, expenditure, \$357.30. Balance on hand \$89.76. Total amount of assets, \$314.79; liabilities \$106.50. Balance of assets over liabilities \$148.29. The report closed with a reference to the favorable progress of the Society during the year. Allusion was made to the many worthy literary and social objects of the Society. The organization was an experiment, but nobly stood the test, and its success is now an accomplished fact. Finally, your Board desire to give expression to the great obligations of the Society to our reverend patron, who, from the beginning, encouraged and cheered it by approval of its objects and of the means adopted for their promotion. To our first President, Rev. Father O'Mahony, to whose zeal in a great measure our organization owes its existence, the warmest thanks of the Society are due, as they are also to the reverend fathers who have encouraged it with their presence, active aid and sympathy. On motion the report was received and adopted.

The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year:

- Patron, His Lordship Bishop Walsh.
- President, Rev. M. J. Tiernan.
- First Vice-President, W. J. McGuigan, M. D.
- Second Vice-President, F. F. Harper.
- Chaplain, Rev. Father Walsh.
- Treasurer, T. J. O'Meara.
- Financial Secretary, P. F. Boyle.
- Recording Secretary, M. J. Gleason.
- Management Committee—B. C. McCann, J. J. Blake and Jas. Vining.
- Amendment Committee—J. Starr, J. J. Blake and Chas. Harper.
- Auditors—W. Macdonald and L. Wieser.

MONTREAL ITEMS.

There is much feeling here on account of the proposed demolition of the historic shrine of Notre Dame de Bonsecours to make way for the Canadian Pacific Railway depot.

The ground on which it stands was given to Sister Marguerite Bourgeois, the founder of the Congregation of Notre Dame, by M. de Maisonneuve, the founder and first governor of Ville Marie. The first church was built of wood in the year 1659 by Sister Bourgeois, who made it a condition that the chapel of Notre Dame de Bonsecours should be inseparably annexed to the Parish of Ville Marie, which condition was approved by Mgr. Laval, first Bishop of Quebec, on Nov. 6th, 1678.

On the 30th of June, 1675, the foundation stone of the second chapel was laid. This was the first stone church built in the colony.

In 1754 this second chapel was burned. The foundation of the present building was laid June 30, 1771, and the church solemnly consecrated on June 30th 1773. Pilgrims from the suburbs and villages at a great distance from Montreal came to this church, and it is an object of veneration to all classes of our citizens, both Catholic and Protestant. Mgr. Fabre, Bishop of Montreal, and Rev. Fr. Colin, Superior of the Seminary of St. Sulpice, wrote to the Mayor and Aldermen pleading to have the Chapel spared. Mr. G. Stephens, M. P. P., a Protestant gentleman, has written a letter to the city press containing a great many arguments in favor of sparing the church and leaving it in a square, such as St. Paul's in London, and the Madeleine in Paris. A citizen's committee has been appointed to protest against the demolition of the chapel and it is hoped the prevailing sentiment will have the effect of making the city council reject the report of the Special Railway Committee.