

tional judgments, to call her congregations to acts of humiliation, fasting and prayer. Let her then adopt, as language becoming such a crisis, that of the prophet Joel, "Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders; gather the children, and those that suck the breasts; let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thy heritage to reproach." Thus, may God's ministers at least appropriate to themselves his promised blessing to the peace-makers, and while certain of our politicians assume the awful responsibility of "preparing the hearts of the people for war," may the messengers of truth, and of the living God, be no less faithful to their higher and holier mission of mercy, love, and peace.

A LAYMAN.

INDEX AND TITLE-PAGE for our second volume are ready for delivery to those Subscribers who have taken the volume from its first number; but as our Publisher's Messengers would not be able to distinguish, we have to request our friends entitled to them to apply at Mr. Stanley's, 4, St. Ann Street, and they will be supplied.

The Berean.

QUEBEC, THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1846.

The recent proceedings of the House of Assembly include the presentation of petitions from three Professors—Messrs. Wickes, Chapman, and Lundy, now or formerly connected with McGill College, for redress of grievances under which they conceive themselves to labour. We do not presume to know whether these gentlemen have just cause of complaint or not; but we think it a duty, though it is an exceedingly painful one, to offer a few remarks upon the extraordinary position held before the public by that branch of the institution with which they were connected. We thus limit our remarks, because we consider the medical branch of McGill College as being in no wise involved in the inquiry prayed for. The medical Faculty was, we believe, organized and brought into successful operation while the other departments were yet in abeyance; and we read now that it makes its own application to the Legislature for pecuniary aid, not meaning, we suppose, to mix itself up with the management of the departments—or pretence to departments—of Arts, Law, or Divinity. As regards these branches, the public has hitherto met with nothing but an entire—but we do not call it an unaccountable—disappointment to its expectations of a beneficial working.

We wish then to express our hope that the Legislature will find time to direct its attention to the matter in a scrutinizing manner; we should be delighted to hope also that the result of the inquiry will be highly creditable to those who have been engaged in conducting the affairs of the institution; and, while the case is thus before a competent tribunal, we are glad to abstain from any expression of opinion on the probable result.

But we have to say a word upon the plea which has been repeatedly advanced, that THE CHURCH has a claim to the management of the institution. We have heard strong grounds laid for that plea in the living testimony which can be given of the donor's intention; and on the assumption that it is incontrovertible, we will now protest on behalf of THE CHURCH that she has had nothing to do with the affairs of McGill College, and must not be held responsible for the manner in which they have been carried on; though, without any of her doing, individuals connected with her have been chiefly selected to bear office therein. We are desirous, however, of impressing upon those members of the Legislature who belong to our communion, the fact that no right-minded member of the Church can feel otherwise than concerned at the unsatisfactory position of the affairs of McGill College, and deeply anxious that it should become an efficient seminary of sound learning and religion. And we think it is those members of the Legislature now pointed out that should make it their immediate and special business, thoroughly to investigate the matter; and not to suffer the session to close without having brought about measures to secure the satisfactory working of the College, placing its government in such hands as shall wield their power with unity and effect; and as shall be most in agreement with the design of the founder as well as the interests of the community at large.

MAKING RESPONSES.—On the 17th of February, Lord Campbell presented to the House of Lords a petition from the Clergyman of a country parish who asks "their Lordships' consideration of a peculiar difficulty which has arisen to him from the parishioners' refusal to make any church-rate. That rate used formerly to furnish the salary of a parish-clerk; the salary not forth-coming, that functionary refuses to do his duty; and the consequence is stated to be that 'no responses are made during divine service in the parish-church.'" Lord Campbell thought the petition deserved the attention of Her Majesty's Government, and of their Lordships. We make use of this occurrence—to which no importance attaches in itself—for the

purpose of remarking upon the strange perversion of practice in public worship which it exhibits. First, as to the parish-clerk: he is a member of the Church, of course; a member in full standing, it is to be supposed; was it not his duty, as such, to make the responses, quite independently of his appointment to the clerk's office? How does he read the fabric in his Prayer-Book? Confession to be said of "the whole congregation"—"the people" shall answer—"the people" also kneeling and "repeating with" the minister—the "minister, clerks and people" shall say, &c. But this officer is struck dumb, as soon as the money ceases coming in for responding, and the Clergyman brings before the Lords the want of responses from the people in his church as "the consequence" of the clerk's silence.

Then, as to want of responses from the people—how have they come to delegate the duty of responding wholly to the official person under the reading-desk?—or to wait for his leading, before they will open their mouths and respond with him? The "consequence," as the petition has it, amounts to a confession of utterly imperfect instruction of the people, or else a most extraordinary stubbornness in them, if "no responses" really are made, since the absence of the money has induced the voicelessness of the clerk.

But this strange state of things is not confined to one peculiar parish; there are probably many where no responses would be heard, if the clerk did not give them:—a neglect which made Rev. Mr. Stowell once say he wished all the parish-clerks were drowned—that is, drowned in the voices of the people. Even where, however, the case is not quite so bad, it must be allowed that the privilege of responding at our public worship is not so generally used as it ought to be. With some persons, that arises from utter listlessness; with some few, perhaps, from a self-condemning consciousness that their hearts are so far from the worship which is going on that they ought not to assume the appearance of being engaged in it; many also seem to have got it into their heads that it is fashionable not to respond. Whatever may be the impediment, it is highly desirable that individuals should search it out for themselves, and remove the listlessness—the unengagedness—or the contemptible fancy about fashion which hinders them from doing what the Church invites them to do.

This leads us to the remark that in many cases children, of an age when it must be supposed that they are able to read, are seen at church, by the side of their parents, without any books with which to follow the service:—this indicates a great want of attention, and makes the children lose an opportunity of improvement which to themselves would be a pleasure, in the midst of the quietness demanded at public worship.

SECESSION TO THE CHURCH OF ROME.—The Rev. J. M. Chanter, M. A., formerly of Oriel College, and Vicar of Ilfracombe, Devonshire, whose pulpit, it will be remembered, Dr. Pusey occupied with the license of the Bishop of Exeter during his suspension by the University authorities, has followed Dr. Newman's example, by conforming to the Roman Catholic communion. Mr. Chanter is the forty-third member of the University of Oxford who has conformed to the Roman Catholic communion within the last three years. *Southern Churchman.*

THE KINGSTON NEWS.—We are happy to find this respectable periodical, which is now in the sixth year of its existence, enabled to commence publishing twice a week instead of once as heretofore. It has our best wishes for its continued prosperity.

THE PEOPLE'S MAGAZINE.—We have received the first number of this new periodical, printed by Mr. J. C. Becket, to be published twice a month by Mr. R. D. Wadsworth, Montreal, for Mr. John Dougal, Proprietor. It is very respectably got up, and contains articles of general interest and of a moral or religious tendency.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

PARISH OF QUEBEC.—The Annual Meeting of Parishioners as a Vestry, was held in the Vestry Room of the Cathedral Church on Monday last, being Easter Monday.

The Right Reverend THE LORD BISHOP OF MONTREAL, Rector, in the Chair.

HENRY JESSOP, Esq., was re-appointed Churchwarden, on nomination of the Rector, and A. J. MANHAM, Esq., by vote of the Vestry.

Messrs. LE MESURIER and WAINWRIGHT were chosen to audit the Churchwardens' accounts for the past year.

The four Members of the Select Vestry first on the list of Members for last year went out of office, according to By-Law; the following Gentlemen were chosen Members of the Select Vestry for the ensuing year:

Alex. Gillespie, Hon. A. W. Cochran, H. Le Mesurier, John Bonner, Esq., T. Trizze, Hon. W. Walker, Jerh. Leaycraft, W. H. Anderson, H. S. Scott, J. M. Fraser, G. H. Parke, Esqrs. Ham'd. Gowen, Esqrs.

It is gratifying to observe that, notwithstanding the heavy demands made upon the public in consequence of the calamities which befell the city during the year, and the severe losses which many of the Pew-holders sustained thereby as proprietors of stock in Insurance Companies, the Collections for the Poor, made in the Cathedral Church, for the year ending on Easter Monday last, amounted to the sum of £490 18s. 3d. (about £63 more than the year preceding.)

Items of Expenditure.

The amount paid on account of the Male Orphan Asylum	£120 0 0
Amount paid for the support of the aged, Infirm and Widows	99 18 1
Amount paid for the support of destitute children	50 15 7
Casual and temporary relief afforded to the Poor	169 11 10
Paid for Burial of Paupers	17 0 6
Balance in-Chest	43 12 31
Total	£490 18 31

In addition to the amount now stated, the

sum of £106 0s. 2d. was collected during the year in the same church after three Charity Sermons in aid of the Incorporated Church Society and the Military Asylum.

Diocese of Toronto.

THE LORD BISHOP OF TORONTO takes this method to give notice that it is his intention, with the Divine permission, to hold Confirmations in the Niagara District during the latter half of the month of May next, in the Home and Simcoe Districts in the months of June and July; and in the Districts eastwards from Toronto in the months of August and September. A list of the days and places of Confirmation will be published hereafter; and his Lordship requests that notice be communicated to him as early as possible, of new stations which have been established, or new parishes which have been organized, at which Confirmations are required to be held, or Churches to be consecrated.

According to former usage, it will be required that every Candidate for Confirmation, unless under special circumstances which must be left to the discretion of the officiating Clergyman, should be of the full age of fifteen years; and the Clergy will be pleased to have in readiness, and furnish to the Bishop, previous to the service of the day, a list containing the names and ages of the several candidates for that rite.

His Lordship also takes this occasion to renew his anxious desire, that Candidates for this holy ordinance should be fully instructed in those solemn obligations and responsibilities which they are, in their own persons, about to assume, and that every practicable means may be employed to render them fully acquainted with all that pertains to the faith and practice of members of the Church of Christ.—*The Church.*

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, KINGSTON.

KINGSTON, April 7, 1846.

DEAR SIR—I have much pleasure in publicly acknowledging your liberal gift of a splendid set of Books for the Desk and Communion Table of St Paul's Church, now in erection, and in memorial of the late Rev. Robert D. Cartwright, whose piety and labors in the Ministry have called forth from you this valuable tribute of remembrance, and affectionate token of respect and friendship.

I shall be highly gratified in presenting for you and in your name, the valuable gift to St. Paul's Church, on the occasion of its consecration to the service of Almighty God.

I am yours, sincerely, and faithfully,
GEORGE O'KILL STUART,
Rector of St. George's Church,
To LIEUTENANT HARVEY,
Royal artillery, Kingston.

The News.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.—The Lord Bishop of the Diocese held an Ordination in the Cathedral Church, Fredericton, on the 6th ult. when Mr. Jhu M'Givern, of King's College, was ordained a Deacon. Upon that occasion the Lord Bishop preached a thrilling and truly impressive sermon upon the duties and responsibility of the Ministerial office, having selected for his subject the 6th chapter of St. Paul's first Epistle to Timothy, verses 11 and 12.

On the following morning, his Lordship, accompanied by the Rev. Mr. M'Givern, (who is, we understand, appointed resident Missionary of the Parish of Andover, in the County of Carleton) proceeded on a tour with the view of visiting the Madawaska Settlement, and ascertaining the religious state of the Church population in that extensive and hitherto neglected portion of the Province. We are much concerned to learn that His Lordship, having proceeded as far as the Arctostock, became indisposed, and was compelled to return home without having accomplished the benevolent object of his mission. His Lordship, accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Street, of Woodstock, arrived at the Hermitage on Monday the 23d, and is going on favourably.—*Chronicle.*

To the Editor of the Berean.

Sir,—The Evening's Gazette announces that the next Mail for England will close at the Quebec Post Office on SUNDAY the 26th Inst.

I had hoped that the feelings of the Public had been expressed with sufficient frequency on the subject of Post Office Sabbath profanation, to be spared a recurrence of such an announcement as the above.

No Steamboat leaves Quebec on Sundays, so that either an extra Steamer must be specially paid for the purpose—aggravating the evil—or the announcement in question presents an inducement to Sabbath desecration without even a semblance of necessity.

I am willing to hope, Sir, that there has been some mistake, and that we shall shortly see it corrected in the advertisement.

Quebec, 15th April, 1846. C.

[It appears that the English mail is to be made up at Montreal on Tuesday the 28th. The navigation being now unimpeded, we can see no reason why the mail should have to be despatched from Quebec before Monday evening. But if Monday were too late, still the divine command ought to be regarded. If the day should not be altered, we must put into our notice next week.

Letters in the above mail will be received at the Quebec Post Office, till the Lord's Day, 26th inst.

It will have a very heathenish appearance.]

The Rev. E. F. HAENSEL begs to acknowledge, with many thanks, a donation of £1 from the Rev. W. W. WAIT, towards the funds of the QUEBEC JUVENILE CHURCH MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Received R. V. R., and are much obliged for prompt intelligence: the enclosure very gratifying.—C. B. we will write No. 1, amount 7s. 6d.

PAYMENTS RECEIVED.—Captain Shuttleworth, No. 10 to 15s; Captain Croagh, No. 105 to 15s; Mrs. Newby, 10s to 15s; Rev. C. Bancroft, No. 105 to 15s; James Gordon, Esq. No. 105 to 15s; Major Evans, No. 67 to 13s; Rev. George Mackie, 7s to 15s; Messrs. H. Burdall, No. 53 to 10s; J. G. Lecrozier, 9s to 12s; J. S. Sully, 10s to 15s.

Local and Political Intelligence.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.—Many Petitions have been presented, among which was one from the Lord Bishop of Montreal, and a number from a variety of places, praying that a due proportion of the Clergy Reserves may be vested in the Church Society of Quebec.

Of the Corporation of Quebec, for an Act to enable them to supply that city with Gas and Water.

Of the same, praying that a certain space of Ground and beach may be vested in them, and that they may be authorized to borrow a sum of money for improving the same, and that their jurisdiction may be extended to both sides of the St. Charles.

Of the President of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, for aid to procure certain MS. Documents connected with the history of Canada.

Of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, for pecuniary aid.

Of the Protestant Female Orphan Asylum of Quebec, for pecuniary aid.

Of Rev. Dr. Cook and others connected with St. Andrew's Church, Quebec, for aid towards a School in connexion with the same.

Of the Male Orphan Asylum of Quebec, in connexion with the Church of England, for pecuniary aid.

Of the Medical Faculty of McGill College, for further aid to that Institution.

Of W. Wickes, A. M., and Edward Chapman, B. A., complaining that in consequence of certain proceedings of the Governors of McGill College, they have not received their salaries as Professors thereof; and of the Rev. F. J. Lundy, setting forth his appointment in connection with the College, and ejection from it, and praying relief.

Of Hon. P. McGill and others, of Montreal, praying to be incorporated for the purpose of exploring and working certain Copper and other Mines. They were severally referred; and that of the Literary and Historical Society regarding MS. documents, ordered to be printed.

The Commissioners of the West-Halton contested election were ordered to appear at the bar of the House, with their papers.

Mr. Daly laid before the House, the Report of the Chairman of the Board of Works; a preliminary Report from the Commission appointed to inquire into the affairs of the said Board; a Report on a system of Public Elementary Instruction for Upper Canada, by the Rev. Egerton Ryerson, Superintendent of Education.

TUESDAY.—The routine business was not of importance. In the evening much interest was excited by a debate which arose in consequence of certain explanations by Mr. Lafontaine in regard to overtures made by the Hon. Attorney General, for Canada West, through Mr. Caron, to that gentleman's political friends with a view of associating them in the ministry, and thereby securing for the Government a greater share of the sympathies of the Canadian population. A number of letters were read by Mr. L. which had passed between him and the gentleman above named, relating to this subject, which fill several columns of the Montreal Journals. Upon Mr. Lafontaine's resuming his seat, Mr. Draper rose and, in a very effective speech, fully vindicated the course which he had considered it his duty to pursue. The Hon. gentleman, during his remarks, read other portions of the correspondence between Mr. Caron and himself, which had been omitted by Mr. Lafontaine; and the exposé which a view of the whole correspondence makes of the conduct of Messrs. Caron and Lafontaine in this business is by no means in their favour. Mr. Caron received certain letters from Mr. Draper marked "confidential;" these, without obtaining the consent of Mr. Draper, and unknown to him, he sent to Mr. Lafontaine, who communicated them to his friends. Mr. Caron also seems to have represented the sentiments of Mr. Draper in a manner which he was not authorized to do; and while communicating to Mr. Lafontaine the private letters of Mr. Draper to himself, he never informed Mr. Draper of his having made these communications to others, nor did he acquaint him with the replies which he had received. To crown the whole, such portions of this private correspondence as suited the views of Mr. Lafontaine were by him laid before the House of Assembly, without receiving any sanction from Mr. Draper, the writer of the letters in question. Col. Prince, the member for Essex, observed, that the proceedings of Mr. Lafontaine and Mr. Caron, "deserved and had the disgust of the House, for surely, Sir, if it be true that the principle of monarchy is honour, it is no less true that the principle of legislation and of private gentlemen should be honour also." [Loud Cheers.]

Mexico.—Accounts have been received from Vera Cruz, via the United States, up to the 15th ult. There is nothing very satisfactory in them to the lovers of peace and order. The American Minister, Mr. Slidell, was still in the country, but it was uncertain whether he would be received in his diplomatic capacity. He had made a formal demand, either to be received as the Minister, or to have his passports forwarded to him; and it was thought this would bring matters to a crisis. Four or five American vessels of war were lying at Sacrificios; and the presence of so many ships of war, belonging to their "annexing" neighbour, together with the announcement of the advance of the American army upon the Mexican territory, created a good deal of excitement in the city of Mexico, from which the dates are to the 7th ult. A Mexican force was marching to oppose the American invading army. The Archbishop of Mexico and the majority of the Clergy in the country are said to be favourable to the re-establishment of a monarchical form of government.

THE RE-CAPTURED AFRICANS by THE AMERICAN SLAYER PONS.—(See last volume of the Berean, p. 208.)—The appeal for help to provide for these unfortunate victims of the white man's cupidity has produced the munificent gift of 800 dollars from one anonymous individual, handed in by the Rev. Dr. Tyng, Rector of St. George's; with the invitation to call upon the donor again, if more funds are required.

At a meeting of the Methodist Ep. Mission-

ary Society held in consequence of the same appeal, the sum of 1180 dollars was contributed, exclusive of donations of flour and other provisions.

TAX ON COLORED POPULATION.—A bill has been introduced into the Legislature of Maryland, by Mr. Hoovers, of Frederick county, for levying a tax of \$2 per annum on all coloured male inhabitants of the state over 21 years of age, and under 55, and of \$1 on every coloured female over 18 and under 45, to be collected by the collectors of the State taxes, and devoted to the use of the Colonization Society. In case of the refusal to pay of a property holder, or housekeeper, his or her goods to be seized and sold; if not a property holder, the body of the non-paying person is to be seized and hired out to the lowest bidder who will agree to pay the tax; and in case of not being able to hire said delinquents out, they are to be sold to any person who will pay the amount of tax and costs for the lowest period of service.

New York.—The Canal Commissioners have officially announced that the canals of this State will be opened for navigation on the 16th of April.

The Toronto Colonist states that orders have been received from England, immediately to commence a series of fortifications for the defence of that city, on a plan somewhat similar to that of the works at Kingston.

LOWER PROVINCES.—PROTECTION TO COLONIAL TRADE.—The Halifax Times of the 31st ult., contains a very spirited editorial, drawing public attention to the ruinous consequences likely to accrue to the British Colonies from the "free trade" scheme of Sir Robert Peel, which it designates as a "dangerous experiment upon Colonial affection;" at its close it remarks—"it is time, then, that the Colonies should arouse themselves, and lend their assistance to avert the danger which threatens, not only themselves, but also the country which they glory in, as being its descendants—to make one strenuous endeavour to maintain themselves in the connection of which they are proud—and to impress upon British Statesmen, that they are a portion of the empire worthy of being taken into account and calculated upon in every political movement which concerns its present or future prosperity."

MONTREAL.—THE FIRST STEAMER.—The Prince Albert made her first appearance in Port yesterday morning about noon. She brought the United States mail. There were no tidings of the Unicorn, nor of the Lake Champlain boats. We understand, however, that the navigation of the Lake was open to Burlington, as a sloop had arrived at St. John's neighbourhood. The Railroad Cars have been running between St. John's and LaPrairie for some days, and we may expect to hear of the arrival of a steamboat at St. John's to-day, when the chain of communication with New York will be complete.—*Mont. Gaz. of Friday.*

The weather still continues very mild, the roads and streets dusty, but still little appearance of verdure either on bough or field. Ploughing is going on in the country with great activity.—*Id. of Monday.*

The Montreal Gazette of Friday has a very full account of a public meeting held in that city on the previous day, to consider the state of things which the progress of Free-trade principles at home is likely to introduce into Canada. The meeting was very numerous and respectfully attended, and resolutions were passed approving, on the whole, of the principles of Free-trade.

ATLANTIC AND ST. LAWRENCE RAIL ROAD.—We understand that A. C. Morton, Esq., who has been Acting Chief Engineer of the Atlantic and St. Lawrence Rail Road Company, has by the concurrent act of the two Boards of Directors at Montreal and Portland, been appointed First Superintending Engineer of the whole Road, from the Atlantic to the St. Lawrence; and that he leaves this morning for Montreal, with a view to be present at the breaking up of the St. Lawrence, and for the purpose of aiding by his counsel and advice in fixing upon a site for the termination of the Rail Road at Montreal.—*Portland Argus.*

The Montreal Gazette gives the following statement as to the capabilities of the different canals in Canada:

Length of Lock.	Width.	Depth.
Welland Canal	150f.	26f. 6in. St. Gin.
Will admit vessels of about 142 feet in length and 26 feet beam.		
Williamsburgh Canals, via Galopos, Pointe-aux-Rois, Rapide, Plats, and Faren's Point	200	45 9
Cornwall	200	65 9
Beauharnois	200	45 9
Lachine	200	45 9

Vessels about 179 feet long, 44 feet beam, and drawing 9 feet of water, will be able to pass through these Canals.

On Sunday night the 6th inst., an accident occurred at St. Thomas' Church, Montreal, (of which the Rev. C. Bancroft has pastoral charge,) which caused great alarm to the congregation, who were just assembled for divine worship. It appears that an escape of gas had taken place, which communicated with a lighted candle and thus nearly set fire to the church. Means were, however, promptly found for extinguishing the flames, but the service was discontinued.—*Herald.*

On the 26th March, 1846, several farmers living in the Parish of Nicolet and Batisseau District of Three Rivers, sowed their wheat. It is 52 years ago since they did the same, at such an early period.—*Times.*

THE WEATHER during the preceding ten days has been remarkably variable. In the commencement of last week it was mild and truly Spring-like; on Friday night an Easterly gale set in, which continued all the next day; and terminated in the evening with a storm of thunder and lightning and hail. On Sunday afternoon, a snow storm commenced which continued partially on Monday; and the temperature fell considerably. Little snow remained on Monday evening; but yesterday morning the ground was again covered with