

There has been an experiment tried on the Boston and Providence Railroad track, for the purpose of ascertaining if letters can be sent to a distance by means of atmospheric pressure. To test the practicability of the theory, there was laid for about one mile a pipe, through which the paper or papers were to pass. Those who have experimented are of opinion that communication can be given in this manner from Boston to New York, in four minutes, and that they are quite sure of success.—*Kingsdon Chronicle*.

The late Chief Justice Chipman of New Brunswick, has bequeathed £10,000 to the Diocesan Church Society of the Province; also a large sum for the endowment of Saint John's Church, in the City of St. John, and £5000 in the Madras School, an institution in which he had always taken a deep interest.

**MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.**—Mr. Richard Fitzgerald, an old and highly respectable inhabitant of this town, came to his death on Wednesday last, near St. David's, while returning from Buffalo with a load of goods. It is thought the horse he was driving ran away, and in going down the hill threw Mr. F. out, fracturing his skull and causing a concussion of the brain—his death was instantaneous. He leaves a large family to lament his loss.—*St. Catherine's Constitutional*.

**RAILWAY MEETING.**—In pursuance of a public notice, a meeting of the shareholders of the Ontario Simcoe and Lake Huron Railway, was held at Horwood's North American Hotel, Front Street, on Saturday, the 20th inst. The Hon. J. H. Cameron having taken the chair on motion of Mr. Scobie, seconded by Mr. Arnold, Mr. Vankoughnet addressed the meeting for the purpose of showing that the object contemplated by Mr. Capreol, the displacement of the existing directors, was illegal, and his views were supported by the Chairman, Messrs. Adam Wilson, Galt and several others. Mr. Capreol having submitted a statement of the Company, the following resolutions were passed unanimously:

Proposed by Mr. Kivas Tully, seconded by Mr. D. B. Read, and

Resolved,—“That taking into consideration the present condition and prospects of the Ontario, Simcoe, and Huron Union Railroad Company, this meeting reposes unlimited confidence in the present direction.”

Moved by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Dalton, and

Resolved,—“That application be made to the Legislature, for an amendment to the Act of Incorporation, as regards the choice of directors.”

Hon. J. H. Cameron having left the chair on motion of the Hon. H. J. Boulton, seconded by Mr. Sheriff Smith, and Mr. Arnold having been requested to take it, a vote of thanks to the Chairman was carried by acclamation, and the meeting then broke up.—*Patriot*.

The London (C. W.) *Prototype* says, that on the 20th instant, a destructive fire occurred in London, C. W. Seven buildings were destroyed, and a stable attached to one of them was also burned, and seven horses which were in it at the time, perished in the flames. The sufferers were Mr. A. Strong, Mr. Charles Askew, flour merchant Mr. G. Summers, do. do., Mr. Peel, tailor, Mrs. Martin, milliner, Mr. King, saddler, and Levi Marriek, bowling saloon. All the buildings occupied by the above named parties were entirely destroyed. A considerable portion of the furniture and stock of the parties were saved, but materially injured in the hurry and excitement of the moment. Five of the horses were the property of travellers that had stopped at Mr. Strong's tavern for the night.

Two vessels have arrived at our wharf during the past week, the circumstances attending the importation of which are rather peculiar, and the purposes for which the said vessels are intended have such an important bearing on the mechanical and manufacturing interests of the Province as to call for and justify special allusion thereto. The vessels to which we refer are the propeller “Syracuse,” and the Steamer “Queen of the West.” The latter is a vessel of large dimensions lately launched at Oswego; her heavy machinery and the principal portions of her engine are to be manufactured in and follow her from the United States; her boilers and the remaining portion of her engine are to be manufactured in this Province. Both vessels, as we are informed, are to run as “British vessels,” and to be engaged in the coasting trade of Canada. We know not to what extent existing legislation may sanction the proceeding indicated but it seems hardly possible that Americans are allowed to do that in Canada which Canadians are prohibited from doing in the United States. We hear, read, and inwardly digest, much that is spoken and written relative to reciprocity and free trade—but this, like many other practices that have got into vogue of late years, has nothing of reciprocity because there is nothing mutual in it, and all the freedom it bestows on commerce is, the opportunity it affords to foreigners to injure Canadian traffic and destroy the young but rapidly extending manufactures of the Province. Such results must be averted as the causes arise, and the various growing manufacturing and mechanical as well as agricultural interests of the Province need all the fostering care of the Legislature, to enable them to compete in the unequal conflict into which the recent policy of British Legislation has forced the whole empire. We have no fear of the results of that policy, provided other countries meet it fairly, because we think British ingenuity, industry, enterprise and economy equal to those of any nation under heaven, but neither the Imperial nor the Provincial Government will act with justice if they do not take care that all the domestic interests entrusted to their charge, shall not be subjected to foreign competition on unequal terms.—*Niagara Chronicle*.

The Early Closing Movement has attracted considerable attention, and been attended with a proportionate success. From and after a certain date, during the winter season, the retail shops will be closed at a specified hour, and the employees therein engaged thus afforded an opportunity for deriving intellectual improvement. But it must be considered that this proceeding has wholly emanated from the employed, who, perhaps in a majority of cases, have with difficulty succeeded in obtaining their end. They have been the prime movers, and, in fact, the only movers; and when it is considered that sturdy objections have been raised, on the part of their employers, against an acquiescence in their demand, and that (as far as can be ascertained) upon the ground of the liberty accorded being devoted to other than desirable ends, it behooves the parties most interested, and the press in particular, to inquire into the encouragement given by these employers to the

various institutions from which alone rational entertainment could be derived by the clerks in their employ. It is not sufficient for them to say, we have given them extra liberty or additional opportunities of improving themselves, or of enjoying intellectual recreation,—it should be satisfactorily demonstrated that the means and occasions of so doing have been provided for them. There are, it is true, a Literary and Historical Society, a Library Association, a Mechanics' Institute, and, we believe, a Debating Club; but what programmes have we before the public, from any one or any of these institutions, of lectures for the coming winter? None! By whom are these associations supported? by the clerks or their masters? and have the latter, when complaining of the perverted uses to which their early closing is alleged to give rise, yielded the slightest additional support to the literary institutions we have mentioned, or taken any steps towards providing the intellectual aliment they so glibly pronounce to be desirable? It is unquestionably the behoof of the man of abundance, or he who is more richly possessed of worldly goods than his fellows, to be the foremost in the task we indicate; but if none will move, (and shopmen and clerks, from their incomes, cannot be included in the category) it is manifestly unfair to object to a relaxation of time in favour of men whose labours during the summer season are of the most arduous description. Not one Lecture has been announced for this winter; we have not even the chastening influence of a Musical Society; nor, (however the extremely critical may object to them) have we the prospect of well-conducted dramatic entertainments. There will be Assemblies, but these are closed to the masses. It is true that we have several additional hotels, restaurants, &c., and that long evenings, with added leisure hours, may induce many to frequent them, who, if better inducements were offered would not be found there,—but what is to be done? We say, that what the employed have begun should be perfected by the employers, and that if evil results from the concession obtained from them the blame will mainly rest upon themselves;—a blame for which they will be accountable not only to their superiors, but to society at large.—*Quebec Mercury*.

**INFORMATION WANTED.**—A publisher in Philadelphia in an advice to one of his customers in Toronto, says:—“May I ask of you a small favour in behalf of a worthy young woman, who has lately come under my notice. Her name is Julia Lowry—she is the daughter of the Rev. James Lowry, of Aghnacloy, County Tyrone, Ireland. She is living here with an aunt, a poor woman, who is unable to provide for her, in consequence of which she would have been destitute, but for some friends whom I interested in her behalf. She is anxious to bear something about her father; she last heard of him, Nov. 1850; he was in Toronto, or near it. The Rev. Jas. Stuart, of Markham, (Canada), is his brother-in-law. If from these imperfect data you can find where he is, and will inform me, you will do an act of charity, and oblige, yours truly.” The minister whose name is mentioned in the above extract, was in Woodstock about six months ago, and is well known to the writer. He represented himself as a missionary connected with the “General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland,” and circulated a hand-bill stating that he would preach here on the following Sabbath. His manner and general appearance, however, created distrust, and his subsequent conduct was such, that the Church was refused to him. He remained in Woodstock a few days, and then went westward.—*British American*.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Obituary notice from the Rev. W. L., came too late for insertion this week.

The communication of “P” in our next.

## THE CHURCH.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, JAN. 1, 1852.

#### PASTORAL LETTER.

To the Reverend the Clergy of the Diocese of Toronto.  
REV. AND DEAR BROTHERS,

In accordance with a regulation adopted at a monthly meeting of the Church Society, appointing the second Sunday in January as one of the days for a general Collection in all Churches, Chapels, and Stations in this Diocese, in behalf of the Funds of the Society: I have to announce to you, that the Collection on that day, being *Sunday, the Eleventh of January*, or first Sunday after the Epiphany, will be applied in aid of the funds for assisting STUDENTS IN DIVINITY.

The Theological Students at present under instruction in this Diocese will be transferred to Trinity College, Toronto, at the opening of that institution, on the 15th of January next; and in order to encourage as many deserving young men as possible to matriculate, with that view, in our infant University, I must solicit your cordial endeavours to produce a liberal response to the proposed appeal on behalf of Divinity Students.

You are aware that the annual value of the Scholarships has been somewhat reduced, while their number has been proportionably increased, so as to extend as widely as possible the benefit to approved Candidates for the Ministry, and yet to leave an efficient and seasonable help towards their support during the progress of their studies.

Hence, while the Scholarships still encourage as much as ever the conscientious and deserving, they can afford no lure to those who may be influenced by inferior motives in seeking to be enrolled among the aspirants to Holy Orders.

Commending this good work in behalf of the Church to your accustomed zeal,

I remain,  
My Rev. and Dear Brethren,  
Your Faithful Servant in the Lord,  
JOHN TORONTO.

Toronto, 22nd December, 1851.

#### 1852.

Another year has dawned upon us. Each hallowed memory of the past is awakened as we listen to the dying echoes of the midnight chime. Like the phantoms of a dream, the hopes—the fears—the feelings which ushered in the birth of 1851, raise their thin and vapoury shapes around us, through which we behold the rugged forms of stern realities. How unsatisfying the nature of worldly desire, how evanescent the enjoyment of human pleasure! How trifling the character of material suffering—how insignificant the sum of human woes. There is but one goal worthy the ambition of rational beings—one haven of safety and joy for christian spirits. How apposite, how forcible the language of St. Paul,—“For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.” “For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.”

That our friends and readers may realize the truth of the conviction at which the Apostle arrived, “We know that all things work together for good to them that love God,” is our heartfelt wish.

#### THE TARES SPRINGING UP.

In the moral soil of the United States of America the seed of unsectarian education has for some time been sowing. Loudly have the creedless husbandmen extolled the quality of the grain which they dispensed, and confidently have they predicted the genial and regenerating nature of the crop with which in due time it would repay their toil. Already does the harvest begin to reveal the result, and, lo, tares are developed instead of the anticipated wheat!

Our cotemporary the *Globe*, in his issue of the 23d ult., contains an article intitled “Democratic Socialism in the United States.” From this we learn that “The Working Men's Society in Richmond” have recently constructed a “platform,” of which the following is one of the most prominent “planks”:

“A more perfect development of the principles of personal freedom and liberty of conscience; consequently, a. Abolition of laws for the observance of the Sabbath. b. Abolition of prayer in Congress. c. Abolition of oath upon the Bible. d. Repeal of all laws enacting a religious test before taking office.”

These enlightened men of Richmond farther propose to reform the “Social condition” of society in the model Republic: “By the introduction of free schools, with the power of forcing the parents to send their children to school, and prohibition of all clerical influence.”

Such are the natural, we may add, the inevitable effects of that miserable system, which the *Globe* and his political confederates would entail upon our Province. Divorce education from Christianity, and ere long we shall have hosts of “working men's societies” springing up on every side, denouncing the Sabbath as a nuisance, and the Bible as a cunningly devised fable. Our cotemporary may sneer at us for so saying, and ridicule our apprehensions as the results of pure imagination, but he cannot get over the ghastly facts which we have quoted from his columns. In republishing the Satanic manifesto from Richmond, he has, like Balaam, testified emphatically against the very course which he professes to advocate, and demonstrated the soul-slaving tendency of “intellect without God!”

#### ORDINATION.

On Friday last, the 26th December, being the Festival of St. Stephen, at the Church of the Holy Trinity. The Lord Bishop of Toronto ordained the Rev. George C. Irving, B. A., to the Holy Order of Deacons, and at the same time the Rev. Edward St. John Parry, M. A., was ordained a Priest.

#### ST. JAMES'S PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS.

The Parochial Schools in connection with the Cathedral Church of St. James, were opened on Tuesday. As we go to press earlier than usual this week on account of the holiday season, we must defer our report of the interesting proceedings till our next.

#### VOCAL MUSIC SOCIETY.

This Society gave their first annual Concert in the St. Lawrence Hall, on Tuesday evening, with the most brilliant success. The extensive apartment was filled at an early hour by an audience who, during the performances, appeared to be attentive and delighted listeners, and to appreciate what they heard. Our space will not permit us to give so full a criticism as we could desire, but

we cannot omit to notice the manner in which Beethoven's Chorus, “*Hallelujah to the Father*,” was given by the full strength of the Society; it is not too much to assert that never were its majestic features done more justice to by non-professional performers of similar standing. We chance to be pretty familiar with the composition, and were unable to discover any breaking down or discrepancy in the performance. The same remark is applicable to the selection from Handel's *Deutigen Te Deum*.

One thing struck us forcibly, which was the want of counter-tenor voices, a deficiency which was rendered more apparent by the style of music given. However, now that the public have had an opportunity of seeing what can be done by a desire to promote correct musical taste, and perseverance in surmounting difficulties, we shall hope to see the Society recruited by many volunteers, from whom it will be easy to construct a perfect choral range. We are sensible of a very marked improvement among the performers—and if we refrain from individualizing at present, it is not because we are indifferent to the merits of particular singers, but because we wish to foster and encourage the exertions of all. Study and practice will effect everything that is wanting.

#### TRINITY COLLEGE.

##### ST. PAUL'S CHURCH GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

This Institution, which, we need hardly remind our readers was affiliated some time since with Trinity College, was visited by the Lord Bishop of Toronto, on Monday the 22nd ult., on the occasion of a Christmas Examination. The Reverend Provost Whittaker, M. A., the Reverend G. C. Irving, B. A., (Professors of Trinity College), and the Reverend John McCaul, L.L.D., likewise honoured the occasion with their presence. These gentlemen were kind enough to take part in the Examination, and expressed themselves gratified with the knowledge and progress evinced by the pupils in the various subjects in which they were questioned. At the close of the Examination His Lordship the Bishop addressed the boys in an affectionate and impressive manner, earnestly exhorting them to the duty of obedience, diligence, and good conduct, and dwelling with much emphasis and force on the supreme importance of religious education.

##### COBOURG CHURCH GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

A visitatorial examination of this Collegiate School took place upon the 19th December last. The boys upon the whole evinced an accurate acquaintance with the subjects examined. The answers of the elder pupils up the critical points connected with the study of Virgil and Homer, were especially worthy of praise. However, as no marking was attempted, we refrain from mentioning any pupil individually. In French, Mathematics, and Church doctrine the progress was considered very satisfactory. After these exercises were completed, the senior boy in the school, in the name of his fellow pupils, presented the Rev. H. Bate Jessop, and the Rev. E. H. Dewar, each with a handsome copy of Alison's History of Europe, in four volumes, as a mark of their love and esteem. The Principal, in returning thanks, called the attention of the visitors to the steady growth of the School, and remarked, that instead of twelve names, which were inscribed in the Christmas present of the former year, he had now the pleasure of reading thirty-one, and that several more were about to be added to their number. He had now, he said, no fear for the complete success of the Institution, and he was rejoiced to find, that the strict rule of discipline and order, which he had always insisted upon, had proved itself to be the TRUE way of securing the attachment of those under his charge. The boys then adjourned to the Rectory, where the Venerable the Archdeacon of York had kindly invited them to a luncheon. After having enjoyed the hospitality of the venerable Rector, the boys gave three cheers for the Bishop, the Archdeacon, and the School, and then separated for the Christmas Holidays.

##### IRISH CONVERSIONS FROM SCHISM.

At a meeting of the Irish Church Mission Society, held last month in London, some interesting statistics were given regarding the conversions from Popery to Catholicism which are at present going on in Ireland. The Rev. R. Bickersteth stated that in less than three years, twenty to thirty thousand converts had been made through the instrumentality of the association. When they commenced operations there were only 500 Protestants in Connemara, whilst now there are from 5,000 to 6,000. In that district, a tract of country fifty miles in length and thirty in breadth, was now “characteristically Protestant” which before was Romanist.

Referring to the charge of bribery which has been so unscrupulously advanced by the Popish organ, the Rev. A. C. Dallas observed at the above mentioned meeting:—

“They had continually been charged with bribing their converts. They had constantly been called on to answer the most absurd charges till they were tired of doing so. He denied it flatly. He stated that there never had been a single act which could be characterized