

the most startling, and to all who possess a little information upon the subject, the most ridiculous assertions. For instance, we read in the *Gazette*:

"But is the *Journal* correct in saying that the Priest-property is the result of purchase or the gift of individuals? We all know to the contrary. Let us select for instance, the Seminary of St. Sulpice, as being the most prominent and the most wealthy religious establishment in the Province, owning, as it does, the field of the whole City and Island of Montreal, with all its enormous riches. That this establishment owes the title to every foot of ground it possesses, by act of the Legislature, is not within human rashness to deny: The title is conferred by one of Lord Sydenham's ordinances of 1840, and is only, therefore, fourteen years old."

We might ask—what does our cotemporary mean by the—"Seminary of St. Sulpice owning, as it does, the field of the whole City and Island of Montreal, with its enormous riches?" Does he mean that the Seminary owns the "enormous riches" of the whole City and Island of Montreal? or simply that the Seminary owns its own—"enormous" sum, amounting to about £12,000 a-year? If the former, our cotemporary has yet to learn that the Seminary owns only certain revenues accruing from its Seignorial rights; and that it has no pretensions to own the riches either of the City or Island, of Montreal; if the latter, we see not why it should be thought worthy of special notice, as if it were an unusual circumstance for a Corporation, or individual, to own its own private property, which it, or he, has purchased.

For we assert—and defying contradiction will, if the *Gazette* likes prove—that the Seminary purchased the Seignory of Montreal, paying for it a very heavy price; so heavy indeed that, at the time, the prudence of the Seminary was very much questioned. The Act to which our cotemporary refers—the Ordinance of 1840—was not a "Grant" in any sense of the word—not was it an Act conferring upon the Seminary a single acre of land, or penny of revenue; but simply a judicial act, by which the British Government solemnly declared, after long and minute investigation, that the Seminary was, had been, and ought still to be maintained, in possession of the property which it had held, not since 1840 only, but long before the cession of Canada to Great Britain; ever since, in fact, the Seminary, with its hard cash, purchased the Seignory of Montreal from its former proprietors.—In 1840, this judgment was rendered, in the justice and legality of which, the most eminent juriconsults of Great Britain and France agreed; and though every judgment of a supreme tribunal may be said to confirm a title to the party in whose favor judgment is rendered, it requires, either the impudence of the *Gazette*, or the ignorance of the *Globe*, to assert that the owner's title is originally conferred by that judgment. A contests with B the ownership to a piece of land; the Court decides that A, being, and having been from the beginning, in possession, is, and was, the lawful owner; shall we then pretend that the title to the land in dispute has been conferred upon A by the judicial act of the tribunal before which the cause was pleaded? Such was the Ordinance of 1840—an act declaratory, not enacting; recognising the justice of a claim, and affirming, but not conferring, the title of the Seminary to their several Seignories. The Seminary was, and since the original purchase, ever had been, in possession; the Act of 1840 merely declared, judicially, that it was, and ever had been, rightfully so in possession.

This is evident from the title and preamble to the document in question. Its title is "An Ordinance—to confirm their title to the Fief and Seignory of Montreal"—thus recognising the pre-existence of the Title which it confirmed, not conferred. In like manner, the preamble, after the allegation that the Seminary was, and had been, in possession, declares that the Title should be "absolutely confirmed."—But what does not exist, cannot be confirmed; therefore, the Title of the Seminary must have existed before the Ordinance of 1840, which confirmed it; therefore the Seminary does not "owe its Title," to the Ordinance of 1840.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY.

At the Annual Meeting of the St. Patrick's Society, held at St. Patrick's Hall, on Monday, the 3rd inst., for the purpose of electing Office-Bearers for the ensuing year, it was proposed and carried by acclamation, that Thomas Ryan, Esq., be re-elected President.

Mr. Ryan then stated that it would be impossible for him to give the necessary time to the business of the Society, and begged of the members to permit him to withdraw—a request which was reluctantly complied with—after which the following gentlemen were unanimously elected as Office-Bearers:—

- William P. Bartley, President.
- Henry J. Larkin, 1st Vice-President.
- James McShane, 2nd Vice-President.
- Francis Campton, Treasurer.
- Henry Kavanagh, Corresponding-Secretary
- William F. Smith, Recording-Secretary.
- Patrick McCormack, Assistant-Recording Sec.
- CHAPELAINS:—Rev. J. J. Connolly, and the Clergy of St. Patrick's Church.
- PHYSICIANS:—Dr. R. L. McDonnell, Dr. H. Howard, Dr. Angus McDonald.

- COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
- Thomas Ryan, H. J. Clarke.
- Edward Murphy, Michael Kelly.
- Jno. Tougher, Thos. Patton.
- Ed. Skiddy, Denis Downey.
- Isidore Mallon, P. Ronayne.
- Galbraith Ward, James Abjon.
- Jno. Murphy, Thos. Brennan.
- Jno. Collins, Henry Lafren.
- J. H. Daley, Patrick Cox.

- MARSHALS ON HORSEBACK.
- Chief, Mr. John McDonald.
- Assistants, Mr. George Groves, and Mr. Thomas McCready.

- FOOT MARSHALS.
- Mr. James Howley, and Mr. William Wilson.

"THE LIBERAL CHRISTIAN"—for April.

The fourth number of this cleverly conducted Protestant periodical is before us, containing several well written, and spirited articles in support of the "Liberal Christian's" peculiar religious opinions. Of these, the first, on—"The Bible, its nature and use amongst Christians"—is the most interesting, and lays down several propositions with regard to the evils resulting from the indiscriminate, and injudicious reading of the Bible, in the truth of which the Catholic will heartily agree.

"Nothing is so certain to create a distaste for this volume as to make use of it as a common task book, or to allow those to read it who cannot as yet take any pleasure in reading, owing to the difficulty they find in it. Nor can anything be worse than to allow this book to be read indiscriminately, chapter after chapter, without its being at all understood, and in a way which is likely to inspire any, rather than reverential feelings towards those holy persons, and those sacred subjects treated of in it. . . . What can show a greater want of knowledge respecting the nature of the Bible, or the powers of mind in infancy, than for children at an early age to be given indiscriminately any portions to read—whether it be the book of Leviticus, or that of the Apocalypse, Solomon's Song, or the harassing tales of the Jewish wars. And yet how can any one expect afterwards that their early impressions respecting the difficulty, or dulness, or unchristian spirit of the Bible should be easily eradicated."

With the above remarks of the "Liberal Christian" upon the evil effects of indiscriminate Bible reading, we entirely coincide. We object therefore to the use of the Bible as a task book in our common schools; and dread the unfavorable impressions which such an employment of the Bible is apt to engender in the tender minds of children—impressions which—as the "Liberal Christian" truly observes—are not easily eradicated in after life. We know from sad experience, the results of indiscriminate Bible reading by boys at school; and the uses to which the sacred volume is too often turned. We know that from its pages have been often learnt the first lessons in obscenity and immorality; and that the knowledge of vices—whose very existence should be carefully concealed from the young of both sexes—is often imparted through the injudicious practice which the *Liberal Christian* so forcibly condemns. The truth of these remarks no Protestant will venture to contest in private; though in public, he will still continue his silly babble about the Bible, an open book for all; and to show his hatred of Popery, will still insist upon its being used as a task book in our public schools.

The truth is—and Protestants know it well—that, not only is the Bible the most dangerous, it is also the most difficult book in the world. "The Bible," says the *Liberal Christian*, "requires learned men to understand large portions of it"—and therefore most men, "must believe on authority in matters of theology, as they must in those of medicine"—that is, if they have any religious belief at all. Now, the only question betwixt us, and the *Liberal Christian*, is—since we must believe "on authority," on what authority shall we believe? Not on any mere human authority most certainly; for to no merely human authority will we ever condescend to submit our private judgment in matters of religion. If we stoop to authority at all, it must be to a divinely appointed authority alone—or, at all events, to one which claims to be divinely appointed. If authority be necessary—if, as the *Liberal Christian* asserts, "most men must believe on authority"—and if God have given to man all that is necessary, in order for him to attain to a right belief—then, most assuredly, God has given to man an authority, on which to believe, and to which it is man's duty to submit. If God has not done so, it must be because He is deficient, either in justice, or wisdom—which is absurd.

THE METROPOLITAN.

Our table is again graced with the ever welcome presence of our monthly friend: the only Catholic monthly periodical published on this Continent, and one of which the Catholics of America may justly be proud. Indeed if we may judge by the lengthy notices with which it has been acknowledged by the Catholic press of the United States, the *Metropolitan* already occupies a very important place—and is destined to occupy a still more important—in the ranks of the Catholic literary army.

The April number of the *Metropolitan* will be found fully to sustain the well-earned reputation of its predecessors. The editor disclaims—and sincerely we have no doubt—any hostile feelings towards the learned Dr. Brownson; with whom, says the *Metropolitan* truly,—"it is possible to differ on a point of metaphysics, without ceasing to admire, to honor and to love him." "We owe Dr. Brownson"—adds our author—"too many and too deep spiritual and intellectual obligations to harbor any prejudices against him." Such an assurance is as gratifying to us, as it is creditable to the editor of the *Metropolitan*; and is no more than we had a right to expect from one, who by his distinguished successes in the literary world, has earned for himself a position in which he has most assuredly, no need to feel jealous of the literary reputation of others. If the *Metropolitan* has to differ with the *Quarterly Review* on a point of metaphysics, we are sure that he will do so, as a gentleman, a scholar, and a good Catholic; by whom upon questions on which the Church has pronounced no formal decision, such intellectual passages at arms may be carried on, not perhaps without profit for the spectators, and certainly without acrimony on the part of the combatants; such controversies, if conducted in a truly Catholic spirit, will serve rather as a renewal of love, than as an occasion of scandal to the faithful.

BROWNSON'S QUARTERLY REVIEW, for October, has been received.

Among our exchanges for this week are two new Catholic journals, the *Halifax Catholic*, published in Halifax, N. S., and the *Southern Journal*, published in Orleans. The *Introductory* of these journals are written in a truly Catholic style. The writers appear fully conscious of their important undertaking, and seem fully adequate to its creditable accomplishment. We cheerfully place both papers on our exchange list, and wish our youthful cotemporaries a brilliant and prosperous career.

We would call the attention of our readers to Mrs. Unsworth's intended Concert, of vocal and instrumental music, announced for the 25th inst. Mrs. Unsworth has strong claims upon our Catholic friends, not only on account of her high musical talents, but for the generous use that she made of them; having for a long time led the choir at St. Patrick's Church, and devoted much of her time to the interests of its congregation. We trust then that our Irish friends will manifest their appreciation of Mrs. Unsworth's services, by giving her a "bumper-house" on the night of her Concert, which, from its Programme, though not complete, promises a rich treat to the lovers of music. The City Concert Hall has been secured for the occasion.

We would remind our readers that the Grand Soirée of the St. Patrick's Society, in honor of Ireland's Patron Saint, will take place on the 18th instant; and that the proceeds are to be devoted to charitable purposes. Patriotism and charity call loudly upon all the children of St. Patrick to promote the success of the festival, about to be held in his honor.

CITY AND DISTRICT SAVINGS' BANK, MONTREAL.

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the DIRECTORS was held at the Office of the Bank, Great St. James Street, on MONDAY, the 3rd April, at ONE o'clock.

His Worship the Mayor of Montreal was called to the Chair, and Mr. COLLINS, the Actuary, officiated as Secretary.

The Chairman having explained the objects of the meeting, the following report was read by the President:—

To the PATRON AND THE HONORARY DIRECTORS OF THE CITY AND DISTRICT SAVINGS' BANK,—

The Board of Managing Directors respectfully Report:—

"That they have much pleasure in again submitting a satisfactory Statement of the Affairs of the Institution for the year 1853:—

There was deposited	
in 1853,.....	£274,855 7 4
Withdrawn,.....	£187,094 12 0
Leaving as nett increase, of balance,	£87,760 15 4
Which added to the balance of 1852,	108,319 18 1
And the amount of Interest carried to the credit of the various accounts	5,311 16 5

Shows the balance due Depositors on 31st December, 1853, to be

	£201,302 9 10
--	---------------

This balance is thus invested: in Montreal Court House and Quebec Fire Debentures, Champlain and St. Lawrence Railroad Bonds, Montreal City and Water Works Bonds, Bank Stocks, In Loans at short dates, on endorsed Promissory Notes, and the collateral security of Bank Stocks, Provincial Bonds, &c, Office Furniture, &c., Cash on hand and on special deposit,

	£205,289 3 9
--	--------------

The Balance to credit of profit and loss is

	£3,356 0 9
--	------------

The number of accounts opened to 31st December, 1852, was

	3637
And in 1853,	1153

Total up to 31st Dec. 1853

They trust that this Statement will appear equally satisfactory to the meeting, and to all who take an interest in the affairs of the institution.

By order, JOHN COLLINS, Actuary.

Montreal, 3rd April, 1854.

It was then moved by S. C. Monk, Esq., seconded by Edward Murphy, Esq.:

"That the Report and Statement of the Affairs of the City and District Savings' Bank now submitted are highly satisfactory, and that the same be received and adopted, and published. Carried.

Moved by F. Mullins, Senr., Esq., seconded by Isidore Mallon, Esq.:

"That the thanks of this meeting be given to the President, Directors, and Actuary, for their valuable services in conducting the business of the Bank for the past year." Carried.

Mr. Mallon having been appointed Scrutineer, the Election of the Board of Managing Directors for the ensuing year was then proceeded with, when the following gentlemen were declared duly elected:—

- HON. JOS. BOURRET, A. LAROCQUE,
- E. ATWATER, HENRY STARNES,
- H. MULHOLLAND, J. B. SMITH,
- HENRY JUDAH, L. H. HOLTON,
- A. M. DELISLE, NORBERT DUMAS,

ESQUIRES.

Thanks were voted to the Chairman for his courteous conduct in presiding over the meeting, which then closed.

Great St. James Street, }
Montreal, 3rd April, 1854. }

The following day the Managing Directors newly elected met, and again unanimously elected ALFRED LAROCQUE, Esquire, President, and E. ATWATER, Esquire, Vice-President, for the ensuing year.

April 5.

We would direct attention to the Report of the City and District Savings Bank. The prosperous state of its affairs is a sure proof of the soundness of the principles on which it is conducted; and the great increase in the number and amount of deposits is a pleasing sign of the increasing prosperity of our industrial classes, and of their confidence in the prudence and integrity of the management of the Bank.

AGENT FOR THREE RIVERS.—Mr. Whiteford has kindly undertaken the agency of our paper, for Three Rivers, and vicinity. As our subscribers thereabouts are considerably in arrears, we would respectfully, but earnestly request them to call on Mr. Whiteford and pay up their accounts.

The Regulations of the "Laval University" received only as we were going to press.

Acknowledgments in our next.

GRAND SOIREE!



THE ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY WILL CELEBRATE THEIR TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY BY A SOIREE, TO BE HELD AT THE CITY CONCERT HALL, ON TUESDAY, THE 18TH APRIL INSTANT.

The following Ladies have kindly consented to act as Patronesses:—

- THE LADY MAYORESS,
- MADAME VALLIERES DE ST. REAL,
- Mrs. MILLER, Mrs. TOBIN.

The proceeds will be devoted to Charitable purposes. By the kind permission of Colonel Hemphill, the splendid BAND of the 26th Regiment will attend.

Doors open at Eight o'clock. Chair to be taken by the President, THOMAS RYAN, Esq., at Nine o'clock.

The Refreshments (of the very choicest description) will be supplied by Mr. Alexander.

Tickets of Admission—Gentlemen's, 6s 3d; Ladies', 3s 9d; may be had at Mr. Sadlier's Book Store, and Mr. Prince's Music Store, Notre Dame Street; Mr. Pichon's, Dalhousie Square; Mr. Patton's, Bonsecours Market; Mr. Kelly's, Campan Street; Mr. Hanly's, Canal Basin; Mr. T. Moore's, St. Bonaventure Street; Mr. A. Walsh's, St. Antoine Street; the Donagana Hotel; Franklin House; Ottawa Hotel; from the Members of the Committee of Management, and at the Door of the Bonsecours' Hall, on the Evening of the Soiree. April 5, 1854.

GRAND CONCERT

VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC.

MADAME UNSWORTH Has the honor to announce to her friends and the public, that she will give a

GRAND CONCERT OF VOCAL AND INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC,

AT THE CITY CONCERT HALL,

ON TUESDAY, 25TH INSTANT,

On which occasion she will be assisted by the following professional gentlemen:

- M. D'ALBERT, Pianist.
- M. HALL, the Swedish Flutist.
- Mr. MAFRE.

PROGRAMME: PART I.

- Fantasia, from Lucia de Lamermoor, performed on the Piano, by M. D'Albert.
- Song—"Where are now the hopes I cherished?" Mrs. Unsworth—Bellini.
- Duet—"Shells of Ocean." Mrs. and Miss Unsworth.
- Irish Ballad—"The Last Rose of Summer." Mrs. Unsworth.
- Fantasia (flute) from Lucia de Lamermoor. Mr. Hall.
- Aria—"Casta Diva." Mrs. Unsworth.
- Solo (Clarionette). Mr. Maffre.
- Irish Ballad—"The Harp that once through Tara's Halls." Mrs. Unsworth.

PART II.

- Duet—"My Pretty Page." Mrs. and Miss Unsworth.
- Aria—"Gratias Agimus." Mrs. Unsworth—Guglielmi.
- Clarionette Obligato. Mr. Maffre.
- Solo (Piano). M. D'Albert.
- Cavatina—"The Mocking Bird." Mrs. Unsworth—Bishop.
- Flute Obligato. Mr. Hall.
- Irish Ballad—"She is far from the Land where her young hero sleeps." Mrs. Unsworth.
- Solo (Piano). Mr. D'Albert.
- Irish Ballad—"The Minstrel Boy." Mrs. Unsworth.

Full particulars will shortly be announced, so soon as the programme shall have been completed. Admission, 2s 6d. April 6.

Birth. In this city, on the 31st ult., Mrs. Robert Sutherland, of a son.

Died. In this city, on the 31st ult., Mr. Patrick Quane, aged 43 years, universally regretted. He was a native of Killarney, Ireland.

On Saturday, 1st April, at the High School of McGill College, Montreal, Mr. Daniel Young, aged 38 years, formerly Sergeant in Her Majesty's 11th Regiment of Foot.