was worth nothing at all in the English market. It was true that the Canadian Parliament did not go the length of repudiation, but they reduced the credit of the country so low, that as he had said before, English brokers would not take the Canadian paper.

Mr. Murney called the hon. member to order. He was on a long discussion on the merits of the petition, whereas the real point was a motion to refer it.

The Speaker said the hon. member was certainly out of order, but he did not know that he was further astray than several who had preceded him, and therefore had a right to proceed.

Mr. Aylwin hoped the government would do him justice and not imagine that he was attacking them unfairly. He was in reality putting them in a proper position, and acting towards them exactly in the same manner as he would expect himself on a similar occasion. But to close. There are people in this country calling themselves loyalists, and if a man had his barn burnt during the rebellion, or his cattle killed, the first question put on demanding compensation, was "What are his politics." If a loyalist, by which they meant a supporter of the Government, then he was recompensed. [No No.] How could the hon. member for Huron say so; he was in Huron at that time, and yet undertook to speak most confidently of the affairs of Lower Canada. Now he, [Mr. Aylwin] so far from interfering thus in Upper Canada affairs, he would not undertake to settle any topographical question touching Huron. Nor he would not even say which was more westerly or northerly, Galt or Goderich, and those, he understood, were the two largest places in Huron. If the loser were a supporter of the Government, he then was paid his losses, and got something into the bargain. But if he were a man who, for his sins, differed with them in politics, although he did not raise his hand against the Government, he did not get one farthing. Col. Prince, in the Upper Canada Parliament, introduced a bill to pay the £40,000, and he told him, and believed it, that £40,000 would not near pay those losses; that £500,000 would not pay it. The Government stated that they had no means to pay them, and he hoped that declaration would be heard in all parts of the country, and that when this road or that road, this bridge or that bridge, was made by the Government, he would then ask how was it that that part of the country was so much favored. It should be well known, that people coming to the Government with claims, cannot have them satisfied at once, perhaps for eight or ten years, and that there are reasons of state which cannot be made public, but which make such a course necessary.

Mr. Lemoine had no objection to withdraw the motion, as he concurred in some of the observations made by the hon. Mr. Moffatt. [No. No.]

Solicitor General Sherwood denied that any of the present administration had anything to do with the outcry alluded to by the hon. member for Quebec. But he, and he supposed the hon. Gentlemen alluded to by him, discharge the late administration with neglect, in not making some provision to satisfy the loyal men of Upper Canada. Immediately after the rebellion, the Upper Canada Parliament investigated the claims of those people, and with praiseworthy promptitude, brought in a bill to defray them, which would have been put into operation, if it had not been for the Union Act having been passed at that time. And since the formation of the present ministry, he had repeatedly pressed the subject on their consideration, and would never cease to do so.—[Hear, hear.] In conformity with a promise given by the hon. member for Ottawa, at the beginning of the session, a bill was prepared, which will shortly be laid before the House, to meet the claims of the Upper Canada loyalists, to be raised by taxation on that part of the Province alone. [Hear, hear, from the ministerial benches.] The loyalists deserved the greatest praise for standing up in defence of the country, against fors within and fos without; but they deserved something more; they deserved to have their losses recompensed. Those were his feelings on that point, he would never cease to feel them, and he would be sorry to have anything to do with an administration that could not enter into them. [Hear, hear.] If any plan could be proposed to remunerate the loyalists of Lower Canada, he would be happy to give the ministry any assistance in his power. It was a very easy thing for Mr. Moffatt to say that they should be paid, but it would be much more acceptable if he would suggest some means by which it could be done [hear,] When Lord Seaton was in this country, a commission was given to estimate the losses of these people, and it was set down at £50,000 and £60,000, aye even as much as half a million, but there was no means of paying even the smallest of these estimates. If the inhabitants of Lower Canada would submit to taxation, he had no doubt the Government would gladly take steps to do this. But when he saw at Kingston that they would not consent that the smallest amount should be raised in the shape of taxes, he feared it would be of no use. He remembered that in the last session, when the hon. member for Bellechasse brought in a bill which necessarily enforced taxation on the people of Lower Canada, it was looked on as an effort of moral courage and hardihood, and as such was hailed with cheers by the opposition and his own countrymen, [Mr. Aylwin.—We are all his countrymen. We are all Canadians.] He understood the hon. gentleman very well, and expected to see him rise immediately, as was his custom, and make it appear that he [the Solicitor General] was drawing invidious distinctions. He said that the hon. gentleman's on French Canadian Countrymen ("Oh!" from Mr. Aylwin.) He the Solicitor General was himself a Canadian. [Hear]—He said that the hon. gentleman's own countrymen hailed his hardihood with cheers.—The then Government did not attempt to tax the Lower Canadians for the administration of justice, it had to be defrayed out of the general revenue of the Province. They would not submit to taxation, and he was repeatedly told so. He was still, however, in hopes that some plan may be devised, if not in the first months of the administration—it would be unfair to expect it as yet—yet he hoped that those just claims might be satisfied in some manner. The Tavern Licenses in Upper Canada are at present £7 10s., in Lower Canada they are £4, and the difference between the two is to be appropriated towards paying off the debt of the country [hear, hear.] Something of that kind might perhaps be done in Lower Canada; if not, yet he hoped that something would suggest itself to the minds of the hon. members of the Administration during the recess, which will enable them to pay the Lower Canada claims, as as well as those of Upper Canada.

Mr. Christie rose, but was interrupted by the Speaker, who said there must be no further debate, as Mr. Lemoine withdrew his motion.

Mr. Christie begged permission of the House to express one sentiment. He was firmly of opinion that the Lower Canada Loyalists should be paid, that was the opinion of the people of the Province generally. And when the Government is prepared with any measure, he would support it, even at the expense of taxing his constituents, who will pay it most heartily.

Mr. Lemoine's motion was then withdrawn.

Mr. McDonald, [of Dundas,] said, that if the gentleman who had presented this petition, now wished to withdraw it because the Attorney General had informed the House of the state of the finances of the country, and of the inadequacy of the funds at his disposal to meet the claim; he [Mr. McDonald,] would cordially agree with him; but he hoped it would not be withdrawn on the ground of its being an unconstitutional course to proceed with such petitions. The house was well aware that he [Mr. McDonald] held, that the House had the right to entertain such subjects, and he believed that he could appeal to the hon. members for Beauharnois and Gaspé to support his view. He had seconded this motion, not because he wished to identify himself with the business of the county represented by the hon. member who made the present motion, but because he thought that he should not do his duty to those whom he represented, if he were to forego the right of the people to petition that House on every subject. It was true, that the advice from him might not be very valuable, but yet he would advise the gentlemen on the Treasury Benches not to oppose the exercise of this right. The hon. gentleman concluded, by expressing his hope that the concession of the right of taxation to the people, as it had been mentioned in the address from the throne, would be speedily granted; and the country would enjoy the same peace and happiness which had reigned before they had purchased this beautiful Responsible Government, at a cost of £80,000.

The motion was ultimately withdrawn.

The Attorney General gave notice of his intention to propose the grant of a sum of money for providing a geological and mineralogical survey of the country. The amount to be £1 500 or £1,800 per year for five years.

Dr. Dunlop said that there was a much greater breadth of land between the Coast of Labrador and the Lakes, than in the whole extent of the British Islands; and notwithstanding the undoubted talents of Mr. Logan, the present surveyor, it was quite impossible for him, assisted by only one other gentleman, to get through such an extent of work. He also desired to see the labours of scientific men followed by the practical operations of the miner, so that the immense riches of the country might be properly explored.

Mr. Baldwin thought that there ought to be specimens of the different discoveries which were made sent to four different parts of the Province—Quebec, Montreal, Kingston, and Toronto.

Mr. Moffatt enquired if Government proposed to erect a building for the reception of the specimens which were collected.

The Attorney General [East] said, that he had been afraid hitherto to approach that part of the subject; but that if the House would give him any assurance of support, he would be ready at once to provide the necessary bill for the building of a Museum.

Mr. Johnston and Mr. Merritt both spoke against a grant for this purpose; they had never seen any practical good result from the enormous sums of money which had been expended on these surveys.

The Solicitor General brought in a bill for relief of insolvent debtors. The bill was read a first time, and ordered to be read again on Friday next.

The Solicitor General, West, brought in a bill for providing a better division of Upper Canada into Counties and Districts; the object of the bill was to bring several Townships, now at a great distance from their own Court Houses, into closer proximity to the places where their business was carried on.

Mr. Thompson opposed the bill. He thought that the great extent of the County of Haldiman, and its vast hydraulic powers, and mill privileges, entitled it to be formed into a district by itself. This was not provided for in the bill. The bill was read a first and second time, and referred to a select committee, which was composed by all the gentlemen whose constituencies were effected by the measure.

The petition against the return of D. Daly, Esq., for the County of Megantic, and two other election petitions from Lower Canada were postponed till Wednesday next.

Mr. Christie, seconded by Mr. DeWitt, moved that the marriage license fee fund bill, be read a second time.

The Attorney General opposed the bill, because he conceived that the House had no right to legislate on a fund which was not collected by civil authority, but was in the nature of an ecclesiastical fee, and the property of the Governor General for the time being, or rather perhaps, of the Crown of England, of which the Governor General was the representative. If the House passed this bill he would feel himself bound to give his advice to the head of the government to refuse his assent to it.

Mr. Christie said, that the Governor General had given his consent to the application of the fund in question, to the general purposes of the Province. He believed the fund had frequently been applied to corrupt purposes at elections.

Mr. Aylwin said that he was surprised to hear the objections offered to this bill by his learned friend opposite, because the Governor General had sanctioned the report which was drawn up during the Government of his honourable friends on both sides of him; and such vacillation as was now exhibited was calculated to shake the confidence of the public in the consistency of the very highest personages, (cries of order, order.] Well, he was about to remark that the report clearly showed, that the fund did not belong to the Governor General.

The Attorney General [East] would like to know from the hon. member for Quebec, to whom it did belong, and by what right it was collected?

Mr. Aylwin thanked fortune that he was now relieved from the obligation of answering questions; but, as the hon. gentleman opposite had taken that burden up, he [Mr. Aylwin] would request him to inform the House by what authority this fund was collected?

The Attorney General [East] said, that there was no law that authorized the collection of this fund.

Mr. Aylwin—Then Her Majesty's Provincial Government are extortioners; [Oh! Oh!] The hon. gentleman from Brockville who cried oh! oh! would not deny, he presumed, that an officer, who enforced, or even received payment of any tax or fee, not authorized by law, was guilty of the crime of extortion; and might be punished for doing so. The hon. gentlemen then referred to the journals of the House to find the order in Council which the Governor General had communicated to the House, and which contained the consent of the Governor General to the appropriation of the fund arising from fees on marriage licenses to the public purposes of the Colony. He however, at last informed the House that from some extraordinary cause, the proper minute which ought to have recorded the communication which he referred to, did not appear on the pages of the journals; but he said he was sure such a communication had taken place, and that it was made in answer to a petition by Mr. Wakefield.

The question being put on the second reading of the bill, after some discussion it was carried. Yeas 30, Nays 21.

Mr. Christie then moved, that it be referred to a select committee.

Mr. Hale, in amendment, moved that in the opinion of the House, the fees arising from Marriage Licenses, should be placed at the disposal of the Clergy of all denominations, for religious and educational purposes.

Solicitor General Sherwood moved in amendment, that the debate be adjourned until Monday, Yeas 25; Nays 26.

Mr. Colville moved the adjournment of the House. Same division.

Mr. Hale's motion was then put and rejected, and the original motion carried.

The remaining orders were the discharged, and the House adjourned.

ROUTINE BUSINESS.

Thursday, January 16.

The House proceeded to ballot for a committee to try the merits of the petition of Wm. Notman and others, against the election of Mr. Ermatinger for Middlesex. Members chosen—Messrs Stuart of Prescott, Desaulniers Seymour, Lacoste, McDonald of Kingston, Taché, Williams, Dickson, McConnell; Solicitor General Sherwood, nominee for sitting member; Aylwin, nominee for petitioners.

Mr. Lantier reported the absence of Mr. Papineau from the Committee on the contested election for the North Riding of Lincoln. Mr. Papineau was excused by the House, and the committee obtained leave to sit and proceed, notwithstanding his absence.

Eight petitions were brought up.

The following petitions were read:—

Of certain pilots for the Port of Montreal and between Montreal and Quebec, praying that certain alterations in the law relative to the Trinity House Montreal, proposed by that Corporation, may not be allowed.

Of John Paterson and others, for incorporation of the village of Dundas.

Of G. Brown and others of Trafalgar and Esquesing, for construction of a plank road from Bronti to Owen's Sound, Lake Huron.

Of E. L'Esperance and others, praying that the Montreal and Chambly Turnpike Road Trustees, may not be allowed the exclusive privilege desired by them in the Montreal and Longueil ferry.

Of J. R. Thompson and others, for construction of a road from the township of Reach to the Narrows of Lake Simcoe.

Of B. Matheman and others, lessees of Clergy Reserves in Nelson, praying that the said lands may be inspected and granted to them at a valuation.

Two petitions from members of the Church of England, residing at Brockville and Prescott, praying that the proportion of the Clergy Reserves pertaining to the said Church in this Province may be placed under the management of the Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto.

Of Andrew Todd, on behalf of certain commuted pensioners, praying for an extension of the time within which pensioners may claim grants of land.

Of Thos King and others, for the establishment of the original survey of the Eastern boundary line of Edwardsburgh.

Of G. H. Dorwin and others, sawmill owners, of Rawdon, for an increased duty on American lumber.

Of D Griffin and others, praying that Bayham may be annexed to the District of Brock, in exchange for a part of Missouri.

Of C. Palmer and others, for repair of the road from the River Becancour to the parish of Gentilly.

Of H. Lemesurier and others, praying that the Custom House at Quebec may be converted into a Marine Hospital, and new accommodations be provided for the Custom House.

Of J. Arthurs and others, praying that the township of Adelaide may not be divided.

The following Petitions were referred:—

Of the Talbot District Council.

Of Dr. F. L. Ceys, and of W. M. Wilson and others, to the Committee on the Alien Bill.

Of Simon Valois and others, to the Committee on the Petition of the Corporation of Montreal.

Of John Smith, to the Bill to regulate the sale of public lands.

Mr. Morin, from the Committee on Private Bills, reported the Bill to incorporate the Quebec Charitable Fire-Wood Society, and the Bill to incorporate the Quebec Library Association—each with amendments.—So much as relates to the latter Bill, to be considered on Monday.

Mr. Scott presented a Petition of J. Paquin, recommending indemnity to the inhabitants of St. Eustache, for the destruction of their Church and Convent during the Rebellion.—To be considered on Monday.

On motion of Col. Prince, the order of yesterday directing the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to transmit to the Commissioners appointed to take evidence in the West Halton contested election, certified copies of the poll books at the said election was rescinded, and he was directed to transmit the *original* poll books and all documents in his possession relating to the said election.

On motion of Mr. Dunlop, a committee was appointed to inquire into all matters connected with the management and collection of dues on the Chambly Canal, consisting of Messrs Dunlop Moffatt, Aylwin, Chauveau, Grieve, Hale, and Scott.

On motion of Mr. Laurin, an Address was ordered, for a copy of the statistical Report of the Superintendent of the Board of Education, for 1844.

The Petition of R. G. Belleau and others, complaining of the Commissioners of the Quebec Turnpike roads, and praying for a reduction of the tolls—was ordered to be printed—200 copies in French, and 100 in English.

Mr. Laurin brought in a bill to amend the Act for securing the independence of the Legislative Assembly.—2nd reading on Thursday.

On motion of Mr. Jobin, an Address was ordered for detailed accounts of all sums of money received and expended by the Trustees of the Longueuil and Chambly Turnpike Road, by virtue of the Ordinance of the Special Council of 4 Vict. cap. 15, and detailed statements of the transactions of the Trustees since commencement of their trust.

The House went into consideration of the motion made on a previous day, that the facts stated in the petition against the election of Messrs. Moffatt and DeBleury, for Montreal, if true, are sufficient to make void the election,—and on Mr. Solicitor General Sherwood's amendment, that the consideration of the petition be discharged.

Mr Gowan moved, in amendment to Mr. Sherwood's amendment, that by the 27th clause of the Imperial Act 3 and 4 Vict. cap, 25, it is declared that until provision is otherwise made, all proceedings relative to controverted elections for that part of the province formerly the province of Lower Canada, should be according to the law and usages in such case in the said province before the Union,—that it has been customary in the Parliament of Lower Canada, to require that the petitioners should declare that they were freeholders at the time of the election, and also that the oaths required to be taken by them should be at length, and separate from the certificate of the justice who administered the same, in neither of which particulars have the petitioners in this case complied with this Parliamentary Law and Practice of the late Province of Lower Canada, and that therefore the order of the House for taking into consideration the said petitions of Peter Dunn and others, against the Elections of Messrs. Moffatt and DeBleury, be discharged.

Which was carried—Yeas 37; Nays 35.

The original question as amended was then carried, on the same division, and the order for consideration of the petition was discharged.

The remaining orders of the day having been postponed.

The House adjourned.

Friday, January 17, 1845.

14 Petitions were brought up.

The following Petitions were read:—

Of G. Rutledge and others, of Loughborough, for the establishment of the line between the 5th and 6th concessions, according to the decisions of the late Boundary Line Commissioners.

Of G. Weldon and others of the Seignlory of Lacolle, complaining of injustice on the part of their Seignior, and praying redress.

Of the members of the Quebec Debating Society, for pecuniary aid to promote the objects of their Society.

Of members of the Church of England residing in Bayham and Thorold for an Act to place that portion of the Clergy Reserves pertaining to the said Church, under the management of the Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto.

Of Alfred Patrick, 2d Clerk of Committees to the House, for an increase of salary.

Of James Farley and others, of London, for amendments to the Act incorporating that town

Of the Provincial Committee of the Montreal Temperance Society, for the establishment of a cheap and uniform rate of postage.

Of Peter Lampman and others, of the Niagara District, praying that no further attempt may be made to interfere with the Charter of King's College.

Of certain members of the Church of England, in Thorold, praying for the repeal of the Common School Act.

Of R. Scott and others, proprietors of St. George's Church in Montreal, for aid in support of a School in connection with that Church.

Of Wm. Wilson and others, of Kingston, for a higher duty on American manufactures, and the adoption of means to prevent smuggling.

Of James L. Grant, late Sergeant Major in Her Majesty's Service, praying for a grant of land for his services.

Of Joseph Munger and others, of Colchester, praying that encouragement may be given to the growth of Tobacco.

Of the Grand Jury of the Huron District, for the passing of an Act to compel absentee landholders to pay their taxes.

Of Alex Campbell and others praying that the township of Williams may be separated from the Huron District, and annexed to the District of London.

The petition of Alfred Patrick was referred to the Committee on contingencies.

Mr Thompson presented a report on the petition of the inhabitants of the County of Haldimand, relative to a certain main road.

On motion of Mr Webster, the return to the address to His Excellency relative to the issue of Militia land scrip in Lower Canada, was ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Cauchon, an address was ordered, for a detailed statement of the annual Receipts and Expenditure of the Trinity House of Quebec, for the last four years, the sums of money lent from the Pilot's Stock, the sums remitted, the loss incurred by the Bankruptcy of the borrowers or otherwise, whether any part of such sums has been lent to members or officers of the Trinity Board, with the names of the persons, the amount of revenue produced by the loan of these sums, for the last four years, and the amount now in the chest of the Trinity Board.

Mr. Grieve moved an address, praying His Excellency to cause the proper officer to inquire and report on the feasibility of constructing an ice bridge over the St Lawrence at Three Rivers, by means of three or more piers to be placed between the Batture à Levard, near the parish of St Pierre les Becquets, and the Batture à Bigot, near the parish of Chapdain, which was carried. Yeas, 35, Nays, 31.

A message was received from the Council, stating that their Honors had passed the Gaspé Fishery and Coal Mining Company Bill.

Mr. Roblin brought in a Bill to provide for the regulation of line fences and water courses in Upper Canada. Second reading on Thursday.

Mr. Attorney General Smith brought in a Bill to impose a duty on Distillers and Brewers, and on the spirituous and fermented liquors made by them. Second reading on Friday.

Also, a Bill to regulate the study and practice of Medicine, Surgery, and Midwifery, in this Province. Second reading Tuesday week.

On motion of Mr. Attorney General Smith, the House resolved to consider, on Tuesday next, in Committee of the whole, the expediency of granting a sum of money to complete the geological survey of the province.

Mr. Solicitor General Sherwood brought in a Bill for the relief of insolvent debtors.—Second reading Tuesday week.

Also a Bill to amend the Act incorporating the City of Toronto, by providing for the establishment of a Court of Record therein, in place of the Mayor's Court, by providing that the Recorder preside over the Division Court for the recovery of small debts in the city, and by vesting in the Corporation the power of laying out new streets, of regulating the mode of building therein, and defining the limits of the city and liberties, and making a better division of the same into wards, &c.—Second reading, 31st instant.

The order of the day for considering a motion on the subject of the petition against the election of Hon. D. Daly, for the county of Megantic, was postponed till Wednesday.

Mr. Attorney General Smith brought in a Bill—founded on a Resolution of the House—for the relief of sick and destitute Mariners.—Second reading on Friday.

The order of the day for the House in Committee to consider the expediency of repealing the Ordinances establishing the Trinity House of Quebec and Montreal, and substituting other enactments in lieu thereof, was discharged.

The Bill for the better defining the limits of the Counties and Districts in Upper Canada was read the second time, and referred to a committee of 23 members—representing the several Counties.

On the question for the second reading of the Bill to fix the Fees on Marriage Licenses, and provide for the payment of the same into the Public Treasury. The Yeas and Nays were as follows: Yeas, 30; Nays, 21.

Yeas.—Messrs. Armstrong, Aylwin, Baldwin, Berthelot, Bertrand, Brooks, Cauchon, Chabot, Chauveau, Christie, Cummings, DeWitt, Jobin, LeBoutillier, Lacoste, Lafontaine, Laurin, Leslie, Macdonell, (Stormont), McConnell, Merritt, Methot, Powell, Price, Roblin, Scott, Smith, (Wentworth,) Taché, Taschereau, Thompson—30.

Nays.—Messrs. Colville, Daly, Dickson, Duggan, Ermatinger, Foster, Grieve, Hale, Jessup, Johnston, Lawrason, Macdonald (Cornwal), Macdonald (Kingston), Macdonell (Dundas), Moffatt, Petrie, Sherwood (Brockville), Sherwood (Toronto), Smith (Missisquoi) Webster.—21.

The question being carried, the Bill was read accordingly.

Mr. Christie moved that it be referred to a Select Committee.

Mr. Hale moved in amendment that the following be substituted:—"That it is expedient that the Fees on Marriage Licences should be at the disposal of the clergy of the several denominations respectively, for religious or educational purposes, and that an Address be presented to Her Majesty praying that they may be so applied.

Mr. Solicitor General Sherwood moved that the debate be adjourned.

Yeas.—Messrs Brooks, Colville, Cummings, Daly, Dickson, Duggan, Dunlop, Ermatinger, Foster, Grieve, Hale, Jessup, Johnston, LeBoutillier, Lawrason, Macdonald of Cornwall, Macdonald of Kingston, Macdonell of Dundas, Moffatt, Petrie, Roblin, Sherwood of Brockville, Sherwood of Toronto, Smith of Missisquoi, Webster—25.

Nays.—Messrs Armstrong, Aylwin, Baldwin, Berthelot, Bertrand, Cauchon, Chabot, Chauveau, Christie, DeWitt, Jobin, Lacoste, Lafontaine, Laurin, Leslie, Macdonell of Stormont, McConnell, Meritt, Methot, Powell, Price, Scott, Smith of Wentworth, Taché, Taschereau, Thompson—26.

The motion was accordingly negatived.

Mr. Colville moved that the House do adjourn.

On which the division was the same as on the last motion, except that Mr. LeBoutillier and Mr McConnell changed sides, leaving the result the same.

The main motion was then carried, and the remaining orders of the day having been postponed

The House adjourned.

Monday, January 20, 1845.

The Speaker reported that he had received from the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery a certificate of the Election of the Hon. M. P. DeSales Laterrière, from the County of Saguenay.

The Speaker laid on the table statements of the affairs of the Quebec Bank, Montreal Bank, City Bank of Montreal, and Commercial Bank of the Midland District. Also, a statement of the affairs of the Trinity House of Quebec, for 1844.

Twenty-seven Petitions were brought up.

The following Petitions were read:—

Of Ralph Foster and others of Merson, praying for protection to the growers of Tobacco in this Province.

Of Rev. F. X. Delage and others, for the removal of the Registry Office for the County of L'Islet, to the Parish of that name.

Of Edwin Pridham and others, praying for a grant to erect Bridges over the rivers intersecting the road between Grenville and Hull.

Of certain shoemakers of Picton, for a duty of 30 per cent. on Manufactured Leather from the United States.

Of John Wetherall and others, of Nelson, praying that the application of the Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto, relative to a portion of the Clergy Reserves, may not be complied with in so far as it may affect the interests of any persons now in occupation of any of the said lands, but that such lands may be sold according to the provisions of the Imperial Statute 3rd and 4th Vict. cap. 78.

Of John White and others, lumberers, praying for a law to require mill dams on the Petite Nation to be so constructed as not to impede the navigation or ascent of fish.

Of D. Davidson, a Director of the High School of Montreal, for aid to remburse the outlay made in establishing the same.

Of John Mathewson and others, soap and candle makers, of Montreal, for an increase of the duties on foreign soap and candles.

Of Samuel Clark and others, for a grant to make a road from Kingston to the Ottawa.

Of Gabriel Marchand, for compensation for his services as commissioner on the contested election of R. Taylor, Esq., for Missisquoi, in 1830.

Of Joseph Somerville and others, for the construction of a plank road from the village of Huntingdon to the upper entrance of the Beauharnois Canal.

Of the widow of the late Carleton Allsopp, Esq., complaining that the rights of her husband as co-proprietor of the Fief and Seigniory of Jacques Cartier and D'Autreuil, with the right of ferry over the River Jacques Cartier, were infringed upon by an Act of the Legislature granting to certain of the other co-proprietors, the privilege of building a toll-bridge over that river—and praying to be allowed to participate in that privilege.

Of L. J. McNair and others, of Quebec, praying for the levelling of two hills on the main post road between Quebec and Montreal.

Of M W. Copp and others, praying for a grant of £1,000 to improve the main road from Stanstead to Montreal.

Of the Montreal Board of Trade, for the further improvement of the River Ottawa.

Of Simon Flint and others, for aid to open a road near the village of Dunville.

Of James Breakenridge, of Canada West, praying for an amendment of the common school laws, for a grant of land to the militia who served during the rebellion,—that no man of doubtful loyalty be recommended to office,—that District Councils be abolished,—that the militia be placed on a more serviceable footing,—that a macadamized road be made from Quebec to Lake Huron, and other main roads be improved,—that the seat of government be returned to Canada West,—that the Gananoque waters may be made navigable,—that fees may be reduced and the practice of the law simplified,—that asylums be provided for the lame, deaf, blind and insane, and comforts for the poor,—that the right to solemnize matrimony be not extended to every denomination,—that heavy duties be imposed on American products, and a check be put on the draining off to the United States of all the money expended on public works.

Of Thos. W. Loyd and others of Quebec, for a law to ensure the better qualification of persons acting as stowers or packers of lumber at Quebec, for exportation.

Of Rev. L. O. Desilels and others, of St. Barnabé, and Rev. J. A. Dumoulin and others, of St. Anne d'Yamaecheche, and L. Pratt and others, of St. Joseph de Maskinonge, praying that no change may be made in the law respecting winter carriages—Three petitions.

Of Charles Willard and others, Seamen and Shipowners, complaining of the injury inflicted on the shipping interest by foreign vessels conveying lumber from one Canadian port to another (stopping at an intermediate foreign port) and praying for a heavy duty on lumber entered at such Canadian Port.

Of Patrick Brennan, of Montreal, praying to be indemnified for the destruction of his property in the riots at the last Municipal Election for that City.

Mr. Aylwin presented an additional list of witnesses on the part of Mr. Small, sitting member for the 3rd Riding of York, in the matter of the contested election for that Riding.

The following petitions were referred.

Of Chas. DeWitt and others.

Of D. McKenzie and others, of Beverly.

Of D. McDougall and others, of Niagara—to the committee on private Bills.

Of members of Church of England residing in Niagara, Grimsby, and Chippewa, to the Committee on petitions of the Church Society of Toronto

Several petitions relating to winter vehicles, of J. Arthur and others of Adelaide to the committee on divisions of counties.

Of A Campbell and others, Law Students of Quebec.

Of T. W. Loyd and others.

Mr. Cummings presented reports upon the petitions of the Niagara District Council, relative to certain lands which are not returned for assessment,—and relative to the fishing in the Nine Mile Pond, Niagara District.

Mr. Williams brought in a bill to extend the provisions of the Act of the Parliament of Upper Canada for the relief of certain Religious Societies—Second Reading on Monday

On motion of Mr. Dickson, leave was granted to the Committee on the Middlesex contested election to adjourn to the 15th of March.

Mr. Cummings brought in a bill to empower the District Councils in Upper Canada to impose a tax on dogs, and to regulate temperance houses within their respective districts—Second reading on Monday

On motion of Mr. Aylwin, the despatches and documents on the subject of the Post Office Department, transmitted in reply to an address, were ordered to be printed—500 copies.

Mr Secretary Daly laid before the House a return to the Address for a statement of the cost of macadamizing and keeping in repair the roads leading from Montreal to the Lachine Bridge, the amount of tolls thereon, &c.

The consideration of the petition against the election of Messrs Bontillier and Rousseau, were postponed till Wednesday next.

The Bill for the attachment of official salaries for debt, in certain cases, was read the second time, and referred to a Select Committee.

Another question for the second reading of the Bill to establish a tribunal for the trial of Impeachments by the Legislative Assembly, the following division took place.

Yeas.—Messrs. Armstrong, Baldwin Barthelot, Bertrand, Cameron, Chabot, Chalmers, Chauveau, Christie, Cummings, Daly, DeBleury, Desaulniers, DeWitt, Dickson, Duggan, Ermatinger, Franchere, Grieve, Hall, Hale, Jessup, Jobin, Lacoste, Lafontaine, Lawrason, Lemoine, Leslie, McDonald (Cornwall), McDonald, (Stormont), Meyers, Moffatt, Murney, Powell, Petrie, Price, Prince, Riddel, Rousseau, Sherwood (Brockville), Sherwood [Toronto], Smith [Frontenac], Smith [Missisquoi], Smith [Wentworth], Stewart [Prescott], Thompson, Watts, and Williams—48.

Nays—Messrs. Aylwin, Couchon, Guillet, Johnston, Laurin, Merritt, and Morin,—7

The Bill was accordingly read a second time, and referred to a Select Committee.

The Bill to incorporate the High School of Montreal, was read the second time, and referred to the Committee on Private Bills.

BRITISH WHIG.

"Opifer per Orbem Dicor."

KINGSTON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1845.

COUNTRY LETTERS RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.

The Editor, Montreal, 2; E. & Co., Toronto; H. O., Picton; R. C., Montreal.

LETTERS FROM THE EDITOR.

NO. I.

To the Printer of the British Whig.

Montreal, January 20, 1845.

Mr. Printer,—

Although I have been in Montreal since Thursday last, yet my time has been so entirely taken up with private business, that I have not had leisure even to think of the duty I owe my readers. I have been but twice in the Reporters' Box, (House of Assembly,) and then only for a few minutes each time. The Parliamentary news you must continue to glean from the Montreal papers, which, although sadly scurrilous and abusive, one to another, yet manage to report very satisfactorily, at least to their partizans.—That is, each party reports in full the speeches of its friends, and either passes over, *sub silentio*, those of its opponents, or treats them very scurrilly in print. But to this unfair line of conduct the Montreal Press is prompted by the behaviour of the leaders in the House. I saw a cool thing done the other night: In alluding to the Rebellion claims of Canada West, which, by the bye, are to be paid off by the Tavern-keepers, Mr. Solicitor General Sherwood made some strong allusions to the Rebellion claims of Canada East. When he sat down Mr. Lafontaine rose to reply, and chose to speak in French, when he can speak English as well as Mr. Sherwood. When the latter gentleman observed this, he rose from his seat and walked leisurely out of the House. Mr. Lafontaine looked daggers, but went on nevertheless!

I have seen the new Attorney General, Mr. Smith, and have heard him speak. He has a high thin head, marked with intellect, but not of a high order. He appears to be a sensible man, without genius. He never could commit an action, good or bad, upon impulse. Vastly inferior to Mr. Draper, as a Speaker, he may serve the purpose of the Government fully as well, for he indulges in none of that biting irony, for which Sweet William is so notorious. On the contrary, his manner is mild and persuasive, and he evidently strives to obtain the good will of the Franco-Canadians. For instance, when Mr. Sherwood left the House on Mr. Lafontaine's rising, Mr. Smith appeared to listen very attentively, and probably replied, but I did not remain to see.

Mr. Gowan is the Great Gun of the House. I know not what to think of this man. He writes the worst newspaper in the Province, without style, thought, language, or sentiment; and yet he makes the very best speeches in the House, and is moreover the very best debater on the Ministerial side. It was entirely owing to his adroitness that the Montreal Election Petition was got rid of on Thursday night. The Ministry wanted an excuse to throw the Petition overboard, and Mr. Gowan found it for them. Whoever discovered the technical informality, I can't tell, but Mr. Gowan argued the matter so well, and made the error appear so monstrous, that all the Tory members voted with him, with a clear and impartial conscience. So Messrs. Moffatt and DeBleury remain the Members for Montreal! That job alone ought to be worth the best gift in the hands of the Government, and in this age of bribery and corruption, I heartily hope he may live to get it. Why not he, as well as another? By the way, Mr. Murney is to get the vacant Judgeship.

The most truly honest and independent man in that House is the Member for Carleton; but for his honesty and independence he gets more kicks than coppers. As he votes with the Ministers upon all measures of importance, he thinks himself at liberty to bully them when they attempt to be extravagant, or refuse consent to what he thinks they should support. He is, therefore, a thorn in their side, and is treated very shabbily in consequence. The House and the Press make a butt of Mr. Johnston upon all occasions, but if the Members or Reporters know what honesty means, as well as the Member for Carleton, they certainly do not exhibit so much of that scarce commodity as does the subject of their ridicule. Mr. Johnston wants nothing of the Government, and the Government know it. His acts, extravagant as they sometimes appear, are nevertheless conscientious, and should be respected. His constituents know his value, and duly esteem it. What is the result? When hardly ten men in that House would venture to throw themselves upon their electors, Mr. Johnston might do it with impunity to-morrow. In a county filled with old country gentlemen of talent and large property, he, a man of neither birth nor education, holds his seat like a freehold. "Charity covereth a multitude of sins," so says the copy book; so does political integrity hide an infinity of blemishes. I am happy to see that one county in the Province respects it. "So much for Buckingham!"

Montreal has become a very gay city—the streets crowded with carrioles and sleighs of all denominations, some of them rich and extravagant to a degree hardly thought of among us of the West, and the horses—they seem to have ransacked the Continent to procure the best money can afford. The good people here drive like mad. All classes, from the military man in his splendid equipage, to the hired cabman in his humble carriole, seem to fancy that their existence depends upon their getting through the streets at railroad speed. The streets are so narrow, and the sleighs are so numerous, and go so fast, that it seems surprising to me that accidents do not hourly occur. This thing must be permitted by the authorities, for no attempt is made by the police to apprehend these furious drivers. Balls and dinner parties are the order of the day, or rather night.—Lady McNab leads the ton here, as she did at Kingston, and Sir Allan spends his thousand pounds like a gentleman. No scanty and miserable one-and-eight-penny dinners, with wine found by the giver, a la Speaker Cuvillier, but entertainments worthy the first gentleman of the land. The Queen and the Governor can make an Executive or Legislative Councillor, but it takes some greater power to make a Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. So well and so worthily does Sir Allan McNab fill the Chair, that he has already converted all his enemies into friends.

The "gallant and fighting Major" is here, large as life, and twice as natural—moustachios, dogs and all. Since he bullied Mr. Aylwin into making him an apology, he treads the streets of Montreal, and turns out his toes (for which his race is not much noted,) with twice the vigor of his Kingston days. Strange that a man who was so very recently kicked and cuffed in a Bar Room, and by one holding the same position in society as himself, without taking any steps to redress his wounded honor, should have experienced the great luck to receive in Montreal an apology. And stranger still, that Mr. Aylwin, who can be a gentleman when he chooses, condescended to apologise to such a man—and that for words, and those words the simple truth, spoken in his seat in Parliament. The "gallant and fighting Major" did "extort" the thousand dollars from Parliament, to perform a specific duty, and so far as the world is hitherto informed, has done nothing to redeem the pledge implied. But why should I waste words with the animal? He has his day, and so has every dog.

There being no House last night, I went to the new Olympic Theatre, of which the clever Mrs. George Jones is the Lessee. This Theatre is neither a handsome edifice, nor is it well situated, but it will answer the purpose well enough, until some person of spirit or enterprize gets up a building worthy of this really great metropolis. But Theatricals are greatly on the decline, and few can be found speculative enough to embark their capital so riskily. But if the drama declines, opera is on the advance, and the day is not far distant when music may extend its softening influence upon the stony hearts of the Rumsellers. As it is, musical pieces are the only ones that do go down here, mangre the music not being sufficiently good to attract a fashionable audience, or exert its proper influence.

Mrs. George Jones' Company is large and well selected, with no very great talent intoiled, but everything correct and proper. When the Theatre was first opened its novelty drew for a few nights, but did not draw generally—the old visitors returning nightly. When the audience became thin, a few gentlemen amateurs resolved to restore the original state of things by performing themselves. Mrs. George Jones, against her better judgement, was teased into consent. The amateurs distributed all the good parts among themselves, and announced "The Rivals,"—exerted themselves greatly out of doors, and drew an immense house. So far well—but they performed so abominably ill, that the audience became disgusted. The gentlemen who played *Capt. Absolute* and his man *Tag*, were wretched beyond description. No 'prentice boy that ever left his Case in the *British Whig* Office to strut his hour on the Kingston boards, ever burlesqued humanity so vilely. And yet one of these gentlemen is a Lecturer on the Shakesperian Drama, and the other a brother chip of my own. And what was the sad consequence? Poor