ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF TRAINS AT KINGSTON STATION, G. T. R.

GOING EAST	ARRIVES.	DEPARTS.
Express - - -	2.30 A.M.	3.00 A.M.
Mixed, No. 3 - -	9.20 P.M.	6.00 A.M.
Mixed, No. 5 - -	5.30 A.M.	8.00 A.M.
GOING WEST.	ARRIVES.	DEPARTS.
Express - - -	2.15 A.M.	2.45 A.M.
Mixed, No. 4 - -	9.00 P.M.	6.45 A.M.
Mixed, No. 6 - -	5.30 A.M.	9.00 A.M.

POST OFFICE, KINGSTON.

	CLOSE.	ARRIVE
Mails going E. by Day Train,	6.30 A.M.	8.00 P.M.
Mails going E. by Night Train,	9.0 P.M.	7.30 A.M.
Mails going W. by Day Train,	9.3 A.M.	10.3 P.M.
Mails going W. by Night Train,	9.0 P.M.	2.30 P.M.

Mails for England by Canadian steamers will close on THURSDAYS, at 6.0 P.M.
Mails for the United States will close at 2.30 P.M.
☞ OFFICE HOURS—Daily, Sundays Excepted, from 7 A.M. to 6 P.M.

CAUTION TO ADVERTISERS.

Persons who honor the British Whig with Advertisements, are earnestly requested to send in their favors before five o'clock in the afternoon. The Daily British Whig goes to press at a quarter to six, and advertisements must come in a full hour before that time. The British Whig being published immediately after the Telegraph news arrives, is full twelve hours in advance of any contemporary in Canada, and those who want their Advertisements to have a quick publication must remember to send them in time.

The Daily British Whig.

"Opifer per Orbem Dicor."

FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 2, 1862.

CITY COUNCIL.

A special meeting of the City Council was held last night, to consider the ward appropriations, &c., his Worship the Mayor in the Chair. All the members were present except Messrs. Brown, Buckley and Baker.—The Mayor stated the object for which the meeting had been called. A communication was received and read from T. Robison, Esq., Police Magistrate and Chairman of the Police Commissioners, and another from O. S. Gildersleeve, Esq., Police Commissioner, containing the following:—

City Hall, Kingston, 1st May.

MINORITY REPORT OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS.

To Michael Flanagan, Esq., City Clerk, Kingston:

SIR,—You will please submit the following communication to the City Council at its next meeting, as the minority report from the Board of Commissioners of Police of the city of Kingston, in reply to the communication of the said Council to the said Board relative to the reduction of the number of Police.

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Police was held this day, at which the unanimous resolution of the Council, requesting the Police Commissioners to reduce the present force to the number of ten, was brought under consideration.

The majority of the Board, consisting of the Recorder and the Police Magistrate, were of opinion, and, accordingly, resolved, that they did not feel justified and would not comply with the request of the Council, but that they would not immediately fill up any vacancies which might occur by resignation or otherwise.

I, however, deem it my duty to state, through you, to the City Council that I, as the third Commissioner, differed and do differ in opinion with the majority of the Board, and, accordingly, have placed the following resolution on file:

"That this Board, having received and considered the resolution of the City Council requesting the Board to reduce the Police force to ten men, are now prepared to comply with the request of the Council, believing that the said number is quite sufficient for the preservation of the peace of the city, and the due enforcement of its laws; and, also, would be more in accordance with the present financial state of the corporation funds."

Which resolution, being put, was declared lost.

As Mayor of the city, elected directly by the voice of the people, and, therefore, supposed to express the views of the tax-payers, who are burdened with the support of the Police force, and, also, as the representative of the Council, which, more in detail, is the responsible mouth-piece of the people, I protested and do protest against what I consider to be the continuance of unnecessary extravagance on the part of the majority of the Board.

I am prepared to give to the Council, or the Provincial Government, my reasons for coming to this conclusion.

Your obedient servant,

OVERTOS S. GILDERSLEEVE,
Mayor, and member of the Board of Commissioners of Police of the city of Kingston.

A very long discussion here ensued as to the propriety of reducing the number of police.

Mr. Allen said it was the opinion of the majority of the members, that it ought to be reduced.

The Mayor being asked his reasons for advocating the desired change, said it was an unpleasant thing for him to do so, and yet he considered it his duty to respond to the request. Formerly, he stated, the police force was under the immediate control of the Council, but, for certain reasons, Government had deemed it expedient to vest such control, or power, in the hands of Police Commissioners. He, (Mr. Gildersleeve,) a member of that body, thought that this change had its advantages. But he thought such a unanimous expression of the Council should have had the greatest weight with the Commissioners, as the Council were the paymasters. The present financial position of the Council, the Mayor assured the members present, demanded some change; and by having only ten policemen in the force they would effect a saving to the city of $2,940, which was an item of some importance. He stated, he said, what he would state if his colleagues in the Police Commission were actually present. These gentlemen had urged that, during the winter, when so many sea-faring men were in Kingston, and ranged the city by night, it was necessary to have a strong police force on beat, in case of disturbances; but the sailors had all departed, and the argument of the Commissioners about soldiers committing disturbances was nonsense, for now that a military patrol paraded the streets at night, there was no necessity for the present number of police, but there was a great necessity for a reduction of that number. He (Mr. Gildersleeve), had nothing whatever to say against the police, who were, all of them, excellent men, and bore high characters; but the Council must act as individuals would act in a private capacity, and act for the best interests of the city, as well as according to the state of their finances.

Mr. Wilmot thought the policemen at present enrolled in the force should be allowed to remain until they had either died off or had been discharged. Many years ago, he said, robberies and plunders had been committed in the city, but since the Police Commissioners had been appointed this was not the case. He was of opinion that the present police force was requisite.

The Mayor stated that as many incendiary fires had taken place made the police force was increased, as at any other time.

Mr. Loan wished to know what they had to do with a communication from the Police Commissioners, seeing that the Council had no control over the police?

The Mayor stated that the Council was decidedly interested in the matter, and, besides, was bound to reply to the communication.

Mr. Loan said he saw no reason for any discussion, but thought the city should be content with the police force as it now stood.

Mr. Allen said it was very creditable to the Mayor to carry out the views of the majority of the Council, which he always did whether his opinion went with it or not. In this instance, however, the opinion of the majority was in accordance with the views of the Mayor. Mr. Allen spoke some time longer.

Mr. Macarow considered that they ought first of all to confer with the Police Commissioners before taking any steps in the matter, as far as regarded petitioning Parliament.

The High Bailiff here stated that two of the police had already resigned, thus reducing their number to fourteen.

Mr. Creighton said that, as such was the case, before the end of the month, the number would be reduced to ten from similar causes, this giving the city the amount desired. He agreed with the Mayor, he said, that the Force was too large at present, and thought that the majority of the citizens were in favor of a reduction.

The Mayor said he conceived it to be the duty of the Police Commissioners to pay every attention to the unanimous wishes of the citizens. Two of the Police Commissioners were, he said, responsible to the Provincial Government, and the third (himself,) to the Council; and the only way left, should a reduction not take place, was for the citizens to petition the Government to cause such to be made.

Mr. Meagher desired to be informed how ten men were to perform the required duty?

The Mayor said they could easily divide the force into squads of two each, which would be quite sufficient to make the required beats.

Mr. Meagher thought that the petition would be thrown back to them, inasmuch as the Recorder was not paid by the citizens of Kingston, but by the government of the country.

The Mayor stated that he considered the Recorder's Court an exceedingly useless one. He was aware of this fact, he said, as he had served in it. He was authorized, he said, by the Judge of the County Court to state that he, (the Judge), was willing to perform the duties of said Recorder's Court gratuitously; but he (the Mayor) thought that the question should stand upon its own merits, and be considered hereafter.

Moved by Mr. Macarow, seconded by Mr. Brophy, and resolved,—That there be a special committee appointed from this Council to confer with the Board of Police Commissioners, relating to the Police Force, and the propriety of reducing the number in conformity with a previous resolution of the Council. So that this Council in the event of the refusal of the Board to accede to their wishes, may take the necessary steps to petition the Provincial Legislature or otherwise, for that purpose—and that such committee consist of the following gentlemen, viz., Ald. Davidson, Creighton, Allen, McCammon, Meagher, McKay, and the Mover.

Mr. Allen brought up the petition of George Mink, relative to his amount of taxes.—Referred to Committee on licenses.

The tenders for Market Tolls were here presented.

George Fisk, Tenderer, George Andrews and Abraham Foster, Securities, for one year, $3,306.

Daniel Donoghue, Tenderer, $2,820; Jacob Bajus and Wm. Elliott, Securities.

John Wylie, Tenderer, $2,662; J. Breden and Wm. Breden, Securities.

Alexander Smith, Tenderer, $3,065; Robert Waddingham and Samuel Smith, Securities.

John Johnston, Tenderer, $3,360; Charles Johnston and J. Gates, Securities.

Wm. G. McLean, Tenderer, $2,400; Clark Wright and Isaac Noble, Securities.

A resolution was then passed, accepting Mr. Johnston's tender.

The consideration of the ward appropriations was then taken up, and a very long discussion ensued thereon.

After a number of amendments were made, the following amendment of Mr. Macarow's was adopted:

Moved by Mr. Macarow, seconded by Mr. Smith, and resolved—That the sum of $100 be specially appropriated to the following streets, viz., Princess street, Montreal street, King street west, off Barrie street, Division street, Union and Court streets, in Sydenham Ward, $600 for each of the wards of the city, excepting St. Lawrence Ward, and the sum of $500 for St. Lawrence Ward; and the sum of $400 for cleaning streets, and that there be no further special appropriation for the current year.

Moved by Mr. Weyms, seconded by Mr. Conroy, and resolved—That the vacant lot, corner of Queen and Clergy streets, be fenced in, as it is at present a public nuisance for all kinds of filth, and the owner of said lot be compelled to do so.—Carried.

The Council then adjourned.

For the Editor British Whig.

MILLS' POLITICAL ECONOMY. Book v., Chapter 10, Section 1.

"The only case in which, on mere principals of political economy, protecting duties can be defensible, is when they are imposed temporarily (especially in a young and rising country) in hopes of naturalizing a foreign industry in itself perfectly suitable to the circumstances of such country. The superiority of one country over another in a branch of production, often arises only from having begun it sooner. There may be no inherent advantages on one part, or disadvantage on the other, but only a present superiority of acquired skill and experience. A country which has this skill and experience yet to acquire, may in other respects be better adapted to the production than those which were earlier in the field; and, besides it is a just remark that nothing has a greater tendency to promote improvements in any branch of production than its trial under a new set of conditions. But it cannot be expected that individuals should, at their own cost, or rather to their certain loss, introduce a new manufacture, and bear the burden of carrying it on until the producers have been educated up to the level of those with whom the processes are traditional. A protecting duty, continued for a reasonable time, will sometimes be the least inconvenient mode in which the nation can tax itself for the support of such an experiment. But the protection should be confined to cases in which there is good ground of assurance that the industry which it fosters will after a time be able to dispense with it; nor should the domestic producers ever be allowed to expect that it will be continued to them beyond the time necessary for a fair trial of what they are capable of accomplishing."

Trusting that this interesting passage will be read with the care which it deserves,

I remain yours,

TARIFF.

May 2, 1862.

IN THE COUNTY COURT, U.C.F.&L.S.A.

Fraser & Gatrge, Judgment Creditors,
vs.
Charles Fairbanks, Judgment Debtor, Caleb Fairbanks, Garnishee.

On the 20th March, 1862, the plaintiffs obtained a garnishee order to attach all debts due or accruing due by the garnishee to the judgment debtor to satisfy a judgment recovered in this court by the judgment creditors against the judgment debtor.

On the 9th April, 1862, a summons was issued calling upon the garnishee to show cause why he should not pay the judgment creditors the debt from him to the judgment debtor, or so much thereof as might be sufficient to satisfy the said judgment debt. A copy of the summons was served on the judgment debtor.

Upon the return of the summons the garnishee appeared, and admitted that he executed, in 1857, a bond in favor of the judgment debtor, conditioned to pay him £75 in three equal instalments of £25 each; that the first instalment was due on the first April, 1862, and that $41 thereof remained due and unpaid; that the second instalment would be due on the first April, 1863, and the last instalment would be due on the first April, 1864. The defendant and one Thomas Ward also appeared and objected to the order of payment being made in favor of the judgment creditor, as the bond was left as security in the hands of Ward by the judgment debtor before the attaching order was made. It appeared that Ward signed a promissory note for the judgment debtor for $200, about two years ago, that the judgment debtor left the bond in question with Ward to secure Ward against loss by reason of signing the said note. The bond was not assigned in writing; it was merely deposited with Ward. The garnishee had no notice before he was served with the attaching order that Ward had any claim on the bond, or that it was left with him in security. The garnishee paid $59, part of the first instalment, to the judgment debtor, who said that the bond was at Ward's, his brother-in-law, and that a receipt for the $59 would be indorsed on the back of it. He said nothing about Ward having a claim on the bond, and he kept the $59 for his own use. Ward, so far, suffered nothing by reason of signing the note.

MACKENZIE, JUDGE C.C.—According to the case of Hersh vs. Coates, 18 C.B., 757, an order upon a garnishee under the Common Law Procedure Act has no operation upon debts of which the judgment debtor has already divested himself by assignment. If the debtor has charged or parted with his interest in the debt, then, except as to any excess beyond the amount of the charge, no interest will go to the person obtaining the order. The Court of Common Pleas of Upper Canada, in Re Jones Ex Parte Kelly, 7 U.C.C.P., 149, has recognised the same doctrine, accompanied, however, with a very proper qualification as to notice of such assignments being given to the garnishee. The court held that, although an order upon a garnishee under the Common Law Procedure Act is not intended to have operation upon debts of which the judgment debtor has already divested himself by assignment, yet, where such assignee had neglected to give the garnishee precise and distinct notice of the assignment, and the garnishee had paid the debt to the judgment creditor, the court relieved the garnishee from further proceedings taken at the instance of the assignee in the name of the judgment debtor. Draper, C.J., said: "In the case of Hersh vs. Coates, 18 C.B., 757, the assignment was known to the garnishee, and was set up by him in answer to the judgment creditor's application. The judge, however, made an order on him to pay, and the court set it aside, assuming the assignment to be established. The present case differs in some respects. I do not find any precise statement of notice of the assignment set up by Ketchum, having been given to Jones before the garnishee order was made, or anything more than that Kelly told Jones that the money coming from him belonged to Ketchum, and that he (Kelly) could not receive it, not saying how or why it belonged to Ketchum, or that there had been any regular or valid assignment. Even now this is not shown to be the case, or that any effectual binding and legal transfer had been made by Kelly to Ketchum. Admitting that, if the facts had been all known to Jones as they now appear, I doubt whether they have constituted good cause against the order to pay." In Watts vs. Porter, 3 E. & B., 743, the English Court of Queen's Bench has placed this view of the case in a clearer light. It is there held that a judgment creditor had the same rights as a subsequent encumbrancer without notice, and was, therefore, to be preferred in equity. Lord Campbell, C.J., said: "We think the language of the Legislature puts the judgment creditor who has obtained the charging order in the same situation as if he had not, at that moment, obtained an instrument, executed by the judgment creditor, creating the charge. Having given notice of it to the trustees, and having no notice of the former charge, he would, under the circumstances, before the statute passed, have been preferred to the prior encumbrancer." As Ward had given no precise notice, or no notice whatever, to the garnishee before he (the garnishee) was served with the attaching order of the 20th March of having a claim on the bond, or a charge against it, the judgment creditors have a right to be paid any balance that many be found due from the garnishee to the judgment debtor. Order accordingly.

VANCOUVER ISLAND.

The following interesting letter has been kindly furnished to the Leader for publication:—

Victoria, Vancouver Island,
March 4th, 1862.

We have had the most severe winter here this year that has occurred on this coast since it has been settled by the whites; the snow laid on the ground nearly six weeks, and skates, carioles and snow-shoes were in vogue for the first time in this city; but to-day it is fairly summer, and will really be a pleasant spring, more so than is usual after a rainy winter. So much snow and rain have fallen that the Sacramento and its tributaries have overflowed and destroyed the most fertile portions of California, drowning many people and much live stock; the value of property destroyed is estimated at forty millions of dollars. The Willamette river in Oregon has risen 57 feet perpendicularly, and carried away all the mills, besides utterly ruining several thousand farmers who are settled along its valley.

All this is not without its effect on us here; for last summer it was almost fabulous to see the amount of gold taken out of the mines by some men in the space of a few weeks. These men have been in California this winter, spending their money, and have created such an excitement among those injured by the floods that an emigration of forty thousand to our mines is already commencing, and, if the excitement should continue, a much larger number than I have mentioned will come. Every individual arriving on these shores assists in developing the resources of the country, and to facilitate immigration our legislature have this year subsidized a steamboat company to make one trip a week from San Francisco to this port. The last three boats have each brought up about 500 men.

Now that we have opened mines of copper, coal and silver, these men need no longer leave the country immediately on the termination of the gold washing season, but can find profitable employment in the mines of the been metals.

This dreadful American war is not without its effects on this coast; for many wealthy Americans are quietly retiring their means from California and Oregon, and investing in these Colonies. Our trade with China is also becoming daily more developed, as well as general business in consequence of the operations of the Morill tariff and the three months bonded system of the United States. The recent developments on the Amoor and Japan are also commencing to shew the importance of this point to Great Britain as an emporium for her manufactures to supply this coast and the North Pacific countries generally.

It is a thousand pities that neither the Canadian Government nor the English Parliament can be brought to see the importance of a communication across the continent.—At present, we are absolutely dependent upon the Americans for our population, our mails, our supplies, and everything we want except what is produced at home.

There is no real obstacle to the opening of a wagon road from Fond du Lac, on Lake Superior, to Red River, and from thence by a route up the Saskatchewan and Jasper's House to the head waters of the Fraser, where a steamer can run six months in the year; and in winter, communication could be had with the already existing roads in British Columbia. This route would open up a vast agricultural and mineral region, and is just as practicable as that by which the daily Overland mail from San Francisco to St. Louis travels.—Over such a route many thousand families would travel each year to find a home in the western countries. The fact of the country being owned by the Hudson's Bay Company would prove no obstacle, as they have already expressed a willingness to dispose of their chartered rights for the sum of £2,000,000 stg., but the Duke of Newcastle is of opinion that "one million is enough; even this is a pretty little sum to divide into fortunes for those interested, particularly as surrendering the Company's charter would not in the slightest degree interfere with the existing business.

If it was not for this unfortunate civil war in the States, we should have had the Pacific Railroad under way by this time, but the war has not prevented the completion of the telegraph to San Francisco, and we shall ultimately have an extension to this town. Even now the steamer which takes away this letter has brought us dates from New York to February 27th, 4 p.m. Rather rapid is it not? The daily overland mail has now been in operation a year with great success. Schedule time is sixteen days, but the masses of printed matter have, since the bad roads set in, made it irregular. The mail exceeding 60 cubic tons per month.

I shall send this letter by the Isthmus, for fear the bad roads may occasion the loss of the mail. This circumstance, I fear, has often happened.

I might be able to give you some more interesting news about the place and people but have been an invalid the greater portion of the winter.

I remain, yours very truly
H. A. YATES.

To E. J. Walker, Esq., Barrie.

ITEMS OF NEWS.

THE INTERCOLONIAL RAILROAD.—A despatch from the Colonial Secretary was laid before the House yesterday, on the subject of the Intercolonial railway. While the Imperial Government refuse to accord the aid asked by the Provinces, it offers to guarantee the loan which it would be necessary for the Provinces to contract, for the purpose of carrying out the work. The amount of the capital required for this enterprise is £1,000,000 stg. This amount if borrowed at three per cent. would entail an interest charge of £30,000 a year. This divided by three would make £10,000 a year for each of the Provinces; or, £10,000 a year more than they had proposed to contribute. The difference between what the Provinces would have to pay and what they had proposed to pay is not so great as to put the enterprise beyond the pale of consideration. The altered shape of the question will require some concert between the Provinces before any decision can be come to in regard to the new proposition submitted by the Imperial Government.—Leader.

THE NORTHUMBERLAND SHRIEVALTY CASE.—It was expected that a case would have come up at the Assizes here which would have elucidated certain curious and important facts in relation to the sale of the Shrievalty of Northumberland and Durham. A suit was entered for trial entitled Ruttan vs Covert. The plaintiff sued for £2000 due on a deed of Mortgage. The pleas entered by the defense probably frightened the case out of court. They were in effect as follows:—That before the date of the Mortgage the plaintiff, Mr. Ruttan, was Sheriff of Northumberland and Durham; that he, Ruttan, illegally, corruptly, and contrary to the Statute sold his said office to Jas. B. Fortune, the present Sheriff, for £5000. To pay this sum Fortune gave ten notes of £500 each endorsed by Covert, and the Mortgage was given as collateral security for a portion of these notes. It was therefore pleaded that the obligation was illegal, and, of consequence, void.

For the present, the facts of this transaction have evaded full investigation; but the time must come when a full enquiry into it will be necessary; as the defendant has ventured to place on record such pleas as we have quoted.—Cornwall Freeholder.

We regret to hear that Mr. George Stewart, of the Township of Crowland, formerly of Thorold Village, was accidentally killed by the falling of a tree on Tuesday last. He was engaged in making a drain in a field where stood the trunk of a large decayed tree. A gust of wind struck down the tree, and it struck him down dead instantaneously. Mr. Stewart was a man very much respected by all who knew him. He leaves a wife and one son to deplore his sudden loss, though at an advanced age. He was a native of the North of Ireland.

Coroner J. P. Macdonell held an Inquest on the body of a child found in a barn near the Railway station. The body is supposed to have been there for a week or ten days. Dr. Burdett held a post-mortem examination, and gave it as his opinion that the child was, when born, full grown and healthy in appearance, and had been intentionally strangled or smothered; he believed the child had lived for 5 or 6 hours, and had breathed freely. The Jury returned a verdict in accordance with the above fact. The mother has not yet been discovered.

UNITED STATES ITEMS.

Washington, April 29th.

The War Department has issued an order for supplies of arms and clothing for the loyal blacks to be enrolled in Gen. Hunter's division.

Advices from the department of the Shenandoah say that Gen. Banks, notwithstanding the bad roads, is cautiously pushing his advance towards Staunton, being already within a few miles of that place. It is considered doubtful whether the rebel Jackson will make a stand at Staunton as he fears being flanked by a column from the mountain. Gen. Banks' troops are in the best of spirits, and do not complain of any demand made upon them. They have confidence in their leader, and are anxious to meet the enemy again in the open field.

The Charleston Mercury says that more schooners left the city on the previous Saturday to run the blockade. The Guide, Wave, and two others were taken. The crew of the Guide were landed on Gibb's Island on Wednesday.

Fort Wright, April 28th.

From Deserters I learn that New Orleans is now in Capt. Porter's quiet possession.—The Federal fleet that passed Fort Jackson on Thursday, after a desperate naval engagement, in which one vessel was sunk and several badly damaged. It is supposed that the Federal loss is very heavy. The rebel loss was 69 killed and 184 wounded. The engagement lasted part of two days. The Federals took possession of the city without a struggle on Friday, the rebel force having evacuated after destroying all the steamers which they had no use for. They took the greater part of the military stores in the city. Union citizens were very jubilant.—The rebel steamer of Fort Wright is stated by intelligent deserters at 32 guns, under Geo. Vidrigue, who has not been superseded as reported. They have seven batteries, counted 36 guns.

REMOVAL OF SECRETARY WELLES OF THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.—Simon Cameron, Secretary of the War Department of the Federal Government, received his "walking ticket" some time since, and now it seems that a change in the Navy Department has been resolved upon by the President. The removal of Secretary Welles is said to be only a question of time, dependant upon the judicious selection of a successor. It is reported that the names of three gentlemen are strongly urged upon Mr. Lincoln, for Secretary of the Navy—namely, General Banks, Governor Sprague, and Judge Davis, of Illinois.

Seven miles from Monterey, Tenn.,
April 28th.

Five companies of our cavalry had a skirmish with the enemy's cavalry, two miles in advance of this. The enemy retreated. Five of them were killed—one a major.—Eighteen prisoners, with horses and arms, were captured, and are now in camp. The prisoner's report that there are 80,000 rebels at Corinth, entrenching themselves and mounting heavy guns. A telegram from Wheeling says that Gen. Milroy's scouts went within seven miles of Staunton, Va., which place is occupied by one company of rebel cavalry. Johnson, shortly after leaving the Shenandoah Mountains, was ordered back, but repled that its occupation by 10,000 Yankees made it impossible. He was then ordered to join Jackson, east of Blue Ridge, which was being rapidly done.

Washington, April 29th.

A doubtful rumour is in circulation here that the Government is in possession of information which may possibly lead to a cessation of hostilities. A mediation and a compromise form the bases of the rumour.

THE SIEGE OF YORKTOWN.

April 29th.

The rebels are apparent just realizing the fact that Gen. McClellan is making extensive preparations to open the second siege of Yorktown. Up to yesterday the works of our troops have steadily progressed directly under the enemy's eyes without any response from their guns, excepting an occasional shot sent to inform us that they were still there. Our earthworks are now beginning to present a very formidable appearance to the enemy, and all day yesterday and last night, they kept up a brisk fire on them, with a view of driving the men out. Occasionally a shell would come so close as to make it unpleasant, when they would lay close to the ground until it had passed over. No one was injured, and the work progressed as though no enemy were within range. This morning the rebels opened with increased vigor, for about three hours, from their batteries near the river, but receiving no response they ceased. Yesterday Gen. Hancock went out with a portion of his brigade for the purpose of driving the enemy from a piece of timbers which they occupied, in close proximity to our works. Our troops advanced through an open field on their hands and knees until they came within musket range. The rebels, who were secreted behind stumps and trees, were anxious to get our men on their feet; and to accomplish this the captain in command of the enemy shouted at the height of his voice to charge bayonets, supposing that our frightened troops would instantly jump to their feet and run; but they were mistaken in their men. The command being given the second time the rebels arose, when our troops poured into them a well directed fire, causing them to retreat, leaving their dead and wounded to be cared for afterwards. During the skirmish a new battery which the rebels had erected during Sunday night, and which interfered with a working party of our men, was effectually silenced and the guns dismantled.

The weather is more favorable for military operations. The time is drawing close when the commanding General will commence the task of reducing the enemy's works erected to impede the advance of the Union troops. All are sanguine as to the result, and the troops are eager to be led forward.

NEW ORLEANS.—The detailed accounts of the entrance of the Federal fleet into the mouth of the Mississippi, are very far from showing that New Orleans had been taken when they left; but no detailed accounts of the capture could have arrived. Therefore these accounts prove nothing one way or the other. Pilot town, down the river, below Forts Philip and Jackson, containing a dozen houses, had been captured. Whenever the Federal fleet came near these forts, fire was opened upon the vessels, and they retreated as rapidly as possible. It was thought the forts were provided with Armstrong cannon; for the range was very great, and the aim accurate. But according to the story of the Herald's correspondent, the firing was not accurate enough to strike the vessels.

Provincial Parliament.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Quebec, April 30th.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Ross the names of Messrs. Renand and Crawford were added to the Committee appointed on Thursday to investigate the affairs of the Montreal Ocean Mail Steamship Company.

On motion of Mr. Morris the Bill relating to Maitintown Presbyterian Church land sale was read a second time and referred to the Committee on Private Bills.

On motion of Mr. Ferrier the Bill to change the name of David Allan Poe, by adding thereto the name of Watt, was read a second time and referred to Committee.

On motion of Mr. Hamilton, the 49th rule of the House was suspended in reference to the Bill to amend the Act incorporating the Canadian Inland Steam Navigation Company. The Bill was then introduced and read a first time, and ordered to a second reading on Monday next.

The House adjourned at four o'clock.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Quebec, April 30th.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

Mr. Alleyn laid on the table a copy of a despatch from the Colonial Secretary on the subject of the Intercolonial Railway, 1,000 copies of which were ordered to be printed for the use of members.

The following Bills were introduced and read a first time:—

Mr. Scatcherd—Bill to amend the Act relating to law costs in Courts of Law in Upper Canada.

Mr. Hunt's Bill to erect that part of the parish of St. Roch de Quebec lying north of the river St. Charles into a separate Municipality.

Mr. Rose's Bill to provide for the appointment of a Port Warden for the Harbor of Montreal.

Mr. Walsh—Bill to amend chapter 89 of the Consolidated Statutes of Upper Canada.

Mr. Morrison—Bill to amend and extend the provisions of chapter 55 of Consolidated Statutes of Upper Canada.

In reply to Mr. DeCazes,

Mr. Galt said that Government looked with great favor on the colonization of roads, and would be prepared to render them such assistance as the state of the finances warranted.

Mr. Dorion enquired whether the Government had taken necessary measures to cause to be distributed, in accordance with population, as ascertained by the late census, the share of funds voted as indemnification to the townships of Lower Canada, by the Seignorial Amendment Act of 1859.

Mr. Galt replied that the Government were taking the necessary steps for the purpose.

Mr. Dorion enquired whether township municipalities which are not indebted to Government, were now entitled to claim their share of that indemnity; whether it would be paid to them, and when.

Mr. Galt replied that the Government were prepared to make good to the townships not indebted the amount to which they were entitled.

On motion of Mr. Loranger, a committee was appointed to enquire into the matter in which the Ocean Steamship Company, which receives a subsidy out of public money in virtue of divers acts of Parliament, has executed the contracts entered into with the Government; also into the causes of numerous shipwrecks of their steamers and their transatlantic voyages.

The following members were named by the House to form said committee: Messrs. Loranger, Langevin, Galt, Laframbroise, Rose, Street, Labrecho, and Yager.

Col. Haultain, in the absence of Mr. Cockburn, asked for what reason three postmasters, in the West Riding of Northumberland, were summarily dismissed from their respective offices shortly after the last general election, and whether said gentlemen, or either of them, were dismissed for having voted at the said election against Government candidates.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald said he was not prepared to say that those gentlemen named were postmasters, or whether, being postmasters, they had voted at last election; or whether for so voting they had been dismissed. He would inquire of the Postmaster General on the subject. All he could say in the meantime was, that if the gentlemen were postmasters, and worked and voted against the head of their department, they deserved to be dismissed.

On motion of Mr. Loranger, a committee was appointed to take into consideration the expediency of introducing into this country a suitable system of credit finance.

On motion of Mr. McGee, an address was voted for a return of all correspondence which may have taken place with the Imperial Government during the last twelve months in reference to the subject of the military defences of the Province.

Mr. McMeth moved an address to His Excellency, praying that he will be pleased to cause to be laid before the House in detail, firstly, amounts paid by Canadian railways respectively, for expenses of inspection since the creation of the Board of Inspectors; secondly, amount of salaries paid to railway inspectors and secretary, and amounts in arrear (if any) due by railway companies for inspection; thirdly, the number of times the railways were inspected and date of the several inspections, and time occupied in inspection, and also the cost of printing a certain blue book, purporting to be the report of Thomas Keefer, Inspector of Railways, with the number of copies printed.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. McMeth moved for an address to the Governor General for a return of the expenses of the railway inspection system. He complained that the charges were most extravagant.

Mr. Bell (Russell) seconded the motion on similar grounds.

Mr. Galt defended the system as being necessary for the safety of the public.

Mr. McDougall complained of the large and unnecessary expense entailed on railways and indirectly on the country, for the purpose of giving patronage to the Government. The gentleman quoted the accounts in proof of this.

Atty. Gen. Macdonald replied.

The address was granted.

Mr. Cowan moved for the papers on the division of the county of Waterloo for registration purposes. Carried.

Mr. White moved for a return of all defaulters in the payment of tavern licenses. Carried.

THE SEPARATE SCHOOL BILL.

On the motion for the second reading of the Separate School bill,

Mr. Scott argued that the bill involved no extension of the principle already conceded, and explained at considerable length the bearing of the seven clauses in it.

Mr. Rankin spoke in favor of the bill, and bore testimony to the liberality of the Roman Catholics.

Mr. Patrick regretted that separate schools were required. He had formerly voted for a bill nearly similar to the one now before the House, and would vote for the second reading of this, but not for the third reading, unless the objectionable features it contained, and which he pointed out, were removed.

Mr. Morrison opposed the bill. He pointed out the great difference which existed between Upper and Lower Canada, rendering the establishment of sectarian education in the former incompatible with the thorough education of the people. The passage of the bill would be the insertion of the thin end of the wedge, by which our Common School system would be destroyed. If the proposed concessions were made to Roman Catholics, other religious bodies, as they had an equal right, would demand similar concessions. He concluded by voting the six months' hoist.

Mr. Burwell opposed the bill, not from sectarian prejudices, but on behalf of the Common Schools, which he did not wish to see destroyed. The people of Upper Canada did not ask for the separation of the children of the different Protestant sects, and he did not see why the demand should be conceded to Roman Catholics. He cited, in support of his views, the course pursued in the United States.

Col. Haultaine opposed the measure. As to the charge of fanaticism, he supposed it would always be made against those who held divided opinions and maintained them. He denied that in opposing the bill he was prejudiced, he should vote against it, because he thought the concession of Separate Schools would be conceding the destruction of the Common School system.

Mr. Ryerson gave a cordial support to the measure, but desired two or three amendments.

Mr. Scatchard said the bill gave the Roman Catholic Clergy of Upper Canada entire control over the school system so far as 250,000 of the inhabitants of that portion of the Province were concerned. He would not place so great a power in the hands of the Protestant Clergy, and that being the case could not give it to the Roman Catholic Separate Schools were it not asked for by the Catholic people—they were contented with the present system—but by demagogues desirous of using them for political purposes.

Mr. M. C. Cameron had always advocated the rights of Roman Catholics, but it would do them no service to support the present measure, while it would be doing an injustice to the rest of Upper Canada.

Mr. Hooper opposed the bill solely on behalf of the educational interests of Upper Canada. In his locality the Roman Catholics were satisfied with the present system. The effort made to pass this measure was an endeavour to weaken the School districts and to ruin the system.

The debate was then adjourned.

The House rose at half past 11 o'clock.

BY TELEGRAPH.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Quebec, May 1st.

On motion of Mr. Desaulniers, there were ordered to be laid before the House a return shewing the various sums which have been paid in 1860 and 1861 to the different newspapers published in the cities of the province, and in the towns of St. John's and Sherbrooke, in which government causes advertisements of its different departments to be inserted for the publication of said notices; also a statement of the number of copies of, such newspapers printed by proprietors thereof, by order and at the expense of Government or of any public departments, and of sums paid for such copies; and lastly, a statement of the list in each of said years of public notices and advertisements inserted in the Official Gazette by order of Government or of public departments, or in virtue of existing laws.

On motion of Mr. Desaulniers, a return was ordered of the number and reports of inquests held within the last two years, and each of the gaols in the districts of Montreal, Quebec, and Three Rivers, and names of coroners and physicians who have held such inquests, and the sums which have been paid to said coroners and physicians for such inquests; also for same years, a return of reports of examinations of insane persons who have from time to time been confined in said gaols, shewing the names of the physicians who have made such examinations, and the fees paid to the physicians.

On motion of Mr. Taché, it was resolved that the General Committee on the contingencies of this house have power to communicate from time to time with such Committee on the contingencies of the Legislative Assembly, with a view of economy in the expenses of the Legislature cannot be diminished.

On motion of Mr. Tessier, a select committee of nine members was appointed to take into consideration the subject of the settlement of the unappropriated lands in Lower Canada.

On motion of Mr. De LaTeinere, the bill to regulate public exhibitions was read a second time.

The House then adjourned.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

May 1st.

The night, after our report left, on motion of Mr. Cowan, a report was ordered to be made of copies of all petitions and correspondence that may have passed between Government and the municipal councils of the county of Waterloo, or any inhabitant thereof, or any other person relative to the division of said county for registration purposes.

On motion of Mr. White, a return was ordered of the names of all persons, municipal officers and others who are in default in the payment of monies received by them, payable to the Receiver General on account of Tavern licenses.

The House resumed the adjourned debate on Scott's motion of Monday last, that a bill to amend Act respecting separate schools in Upper Canada, in so far as relates to separate schools, be now read a second time.

Mr. Morris moved in amendment, that the bill be read a second time this day six months.

On motion of Mr. Biggar, the debate was adjourned until the following day, and the House rose at 10 minutes before twelve.

On motion of Mr. Benjamin, the petitions complaining of undue election return of the sitting members for Perth, Brythier, North Oxford, Montcalm, Sherwood, Montreal East, Quebec, County Bagot, Lennox and Addington, Wentworth, Peel, South Leeds, West Elgin, Levi and Durham, were referred to General Committee on elections, and read a first time.

By Mr. Taschereau—Bill to amend Act 24 Vic., entitled an 'Act to amend Canada Consolidated Municipal Act.'

By Mr. Fortier—Bill to exempt the salaries and effects of school teachers from seizure.

By Mr. Dunkin—Bill to amend Chap. 24 of the Consolidated Statutes for Lower Canada.

By Mr. Simpson—Bill to amend the charter of the Erie and Ontario Railway.

Mr. Crawford moved an address to His Excellency, praying that he will be pleased to cause to be laid before this House:

Firstly,—A return of the number of post offices and miles of post roads in Upper and Lower Canada, separately existing in 1791, 1801, 1811, 1821, 1831, 1841, 1851 and 1861, or as many of these periods or as near to them as can be found.

Secondly,—A return of the number of vessels owned in Canada, registered and unregistered, distinguishing inland from sea-going, and steamers from sailing vessels for each of above periods, or as far back as any record existed.

Thirdly,—A return of the number of plank, gravel and macadamized roads constructed in each county in Upper and Lower Canada, distinguishing government, municipal and private enterprises.—Carried.

Mr. Simpson moved for a select Committee to enquire into and report upon the charters granted to certain Banks, especially the Bank of Clifton, and the Farmer's Bank of Canada and for persons, papers and records; and Committee to consist of Messrs. Galt, Street, Howland, White and the mover.

LATEST

NEWS FROM EUROPE.

Arrival of the America.

THE TIMES AND HERAL