THE WEEKLY BRITISH WHIG.

VOL. XXVIII. KINGSTON, CANADA, FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 6, 1859. NO 18.

Queen's College Examinations.

The Examinations in connection with the University of Queen's College have been held in the newly-erected commodious lecture room of the College during the past few days. The degrees were conferred yesterday at noon, when it was anticipated that the prizes would be publicly awarded. The room was completely filled with ladies, gentlemen, and students—ladies forming by far the larger number of spectators. The various professors attached to the College were seated directly beneath the platform occupied by the Principal, and, as the students received their degrees and diplomas, they congratulated the fortunate recipients.

The Principal stated that the prizes would not then be publicly awarded as had been announced, owing to their non-arrival in this city from Scotland in time for the occasion. He believed, however, that the prizes had arrived on this continent, and would probably arrive in Kingston that night. Under such circumstances, the prizes would be announced, and the students whose names were called would stand up.

The prizes announced were as follows:

CLASSICAL DEPARTMENT.

JUNIOR GREEK CLASS.

First Prize—Thomas F. Harkness, Kingston; 2nd—William Cook, Quebec; 3rd—James C. Smith, Banffshire, Scotland; 4th—John McIntyre, Kingston; 5th—Robert V. Rogers, Kingston. Order of Merit—John Mudie, Portsmouth, C. W.; John Gordon, Nova Scotia; John Ostan, Nova Scotia; Charles Cameron, Scotland; George Caie, Miramichi, New Brunswick; George M. Nutt, Prince Edward's Island.

JUNIOR LATIN CLASS.

First Prize—Thos. F. Harkness, Kingston; 2nd—James C. Smith, Banffshire, Scotland; 3rd—William Cook, Quebec; 4th—John McIntyre, Kingston; 5th—John Mudie, Portsmouth, C. W. Order of merit—James Dingwall, Glengarry, C. W.; Robert V. Rogers, Kingston; Charles Cameron, Scotland; James F. Ferguson, Kingston; John Gordon, Nova Scotia. For metrical translations of three of the Odes of Horace—Charles Cameron, Scotland.

SECOND GREEK CLASS.

First Prize—Donald Ross, Glengarry, C. W.; 2nd—Alexander McBain, Thorah, C. W.; 3rd—Thos. Hart, Perth, C. W.; 4th—Edward Gillaleen, Perth, C. W. Order of Merit—John McLean, Glengarry, C. W.; George Macdonell, Fergus, C. W.

SECOND LATIN CLASS.

First Prize—Donald Ross, Glengarry, C. W.; 2nd—Thomas Hart, Perth, C. W.; 3rd—Alexander McBain, Thorah, C. W.; 4th—John McLean, Glengarry, C. W. Order of Merit—Edward Malcom, Perth, C. W.; George Macdonell, Fergus, C. W.

THIRD GREEK CLASS.

First Prize—James McCaul, Kingston; 2nd—Alexander Dawson, Niagara, C. W.; 3rd—William B. Curran, Kingston; 4th—Herbert S. McDonald, Gananoque. Order of Merit—John R. McMorine, Ramsay, C. W.; Duncan McDonald, Picton, Nova Scotia.

THIRD LATIN CLASS.

First Prize—James McCaul, Kingston; 2nd—John R. McMorine, Ramsay, C. W.; 3rd—William B. Curran, Kingston; 4th—Alexander Dawson, Niagara, C. W. Order of Merit—Herbert S. McDonald, Gananoque, C. W.; Duncan McDonald, Picton, Nova Scotia.

MATHEMATICAL DEPARTMENT.

JUNIOR MATHEMATICAL CLASS.

Best Geometricians—1st, Thomas F. Harkness, Kingston; 2nd, William Cook, Quebec; 3rd, Charles Cameron, Scotland; John Gordon, Picton, Nova Scotia.—Best Algebraists—1st, William B. Ferguson, Kingston; James Forsyth Ferguson, Kingston. Order of Merit—Alexander Hunter, Glasgow, Scotland; and James Carmichael, Perth, C. W.—equal; James C. Smith, Scotland; John Leonard, U. S.; John McIntyre, Kingston. Best Prize Exercises—Thomas F. Harkness, Kingston; William Cook, Quebec. Special Prize—James C. Smith, Scotland.

SENIOR CLASS IN MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.

First Prize—Donald Ross, Glengarry,—Thomas Hart, Perth; and Alexander McBain, Thorah—equal. Order of Merit—Andrew Drummond, Kingston; John McLaren, Glengarry; Edward G. Malcom, Perth; Horace Yeomans, Mill Creek. Best Prize Exercises—Alexander McBain, Donald Ross, Andrew Drummond. Best Essays 'On the Advantages of the Study of Mechanical Philosophy'—Donald Ross and Thomas Hart—equal; Edward G. Malcom. Best Mechanical Diagrams—Donald Ross, Andrew Drummond. Best Exercises performed during the Recess—Donald Ross, Andrew Drummond, Alexander McBain, John McLaren, Glengarry; Horace Yeomans, Mill Creek.

SENIOR NATURAL PHILOSOPHY CLASS.

First Prize—James A. Somerville, Kingston; 2nd, Findlay F. McNab, Beckwith; 3rd, John McMorine, Ramsay. Order of Merit—James McCaul, Kingston; Duncan McDonald, Nova Scotia; Walter Ross, Nova Scotia. For an Essay on 'Optics'—Herbert S. McDonald, Gananoque. For Astronomical Diagrams—John Agnew, Kingston; William B. Curran, Kingston. Best Exercises during the Recess—Essay on 'Natural Philosophy'—John McMorine. Exercises, &c., Walter Ross, John Agnew.

CHEMISTRY CLASS.

First Prize—Robert J. Foster, who was presented with the prize medal amid the enthusiasm of the audience; 2nd—G. L. Lowe.

NATURAL HISTORY CLASS.

First Prize—John Kethig, Perth, C. W.

THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

CLASS IN MORAL PHILOSOPHY AND LOGIC.

First Prize—Herbert Stone McDonald, Gananoque; 2nd—A. Campbell, Kingston; 3rd—Hugh Cameron, Scotland; 4th—Jas. B. Mullen, Chatham; 5th—W. B. Curran, Kingston. Special Prize for Essay—J. K. McMorine, Ramsay.

JUNIOR HEBREW CLASS.

First Prize—Daniel James Macdonnell, Fergus, C. W.

SENIOR HEBREW CLASS.

First Prize—James Carmichael, Beckwith.

DEGREES CONFERRED.

BACHELORS OF ARTS.

The degree of B. A. was then conferred upon the following gentlemen:—John Agnew, Kingston; William Bannigan, Curran, Kingston; Alexander Dawson, Niagara, C. W.; James McCaul, Kingston; Herbert S. McDonald, Gananoque, C. W.; Duncan McDonald, Picton, Nova Scotia; John R. McMorine, Ramsay, C. W.; Findlay Ferguson McNab, Smith's Falls, C. W.; Walter Ross, Picton, Nova Scotia; James Alexander Somerville, Kingston, C. W.

DOCTORS OF MEDICINE.

The degree of M. D. was next conferred upon the undermentioned gentlemen, who received the congratulations of the professors:—George Campbell, Toronto; William Henderson, Williams; Arthur R. Boyle, St. Catherines; William R. Clauss, Beaverton, C. W.; George Smith Spanman, Waterloo; Robert J. Foster, Kingston; Robert Lambert, St. Catherines; John H. Marsden, Melrose; Henry W. Day, Kingston; Francis W. Bull, Belleville; Baird Ryerson McLean, Kingston; Charles F. Ferguson, Toledo. The above names are arranged in the same order as the degrees were conferred—promiscuously and not according to merit.

A burst of applause followed the conferring of the degrees, upon the subsiding of which,

The Principal addressed the students and assemblage. He said the business of the session was now finished, and he had no desire to detain them with any long address. He might say a word or two, however, in the character of trustee, concerning the establishment and prosperity of the College. He had observed with satisfaction the prosperity which had attended this institution. They (the trustees) had reason to be pleased with the increase in the number of students, and with the energy and ability of their professors. The examinations of the last few days proved to his mind that the trustees possessing beneficial results. It was gratifying to him, too, to be able to say that the College had lately obtained an acquisition to its professors in the person of Professor Lawson, of the department of Natural History and Botany, a branch of science of much utility. He trusted the time was not far distant when the attendance up to the Arts Classes would be considered a necessary part of medical tuition. One class, in particular, he very much desired to see added to the curriculum,—a class for the study of the evidences of natural and revealed religion. There was nothing sectarian in the nature of such a study, and it would be well to have the impression made that the fact of the existence of mind was of the greatest certainty. There were continually floating in the periodical literature of the day statements antagonistic to religion, which might appear to be occurring for the first time, but which had been made before and had been refuted. No academical institution seemed to him to do its duty which did not set the highest interest upon such a study. With other remarks, and after hoping that before another session a permanent Principal would be appointed, he bade the students farewell.

Applause was heartily testified upon the conclusion of the address, and after a benediction had been pronounced, the assemblage dispersed.

*** While upon this subject it may be in place to remark that anything like effective reporting is a task of great difficulty, and must always be imperfectly performed upon occasions and in places where no accommodations are made for members of the Press. At the examination yesterday three members of the Kingston Press were in attendance—one obliged to put up with a distant seat, a second making use of the collegiate wall as a desk, and a third vainly attempting to do justice to the incidents of the day in a position of much personal inconvenience and discomfort. How easy it would have been to have set apart a locality for the especial occupation of the representatives of the social Press, it is needless to observe; but while those who should attend to these matters neglect their duty, how can they reasonably complain of what might appear to be negligence on the part of others? Our remarks apply with equal force to other institutions than that of Queen's College, and it is to be hoped—for the advantage of the parties directly interested, as well as that of the public,—that no further occasion may occur to justify a repetition of our complaint in this respect.

LAW OF DIVORCE.

The following is a copy of the despatch addressed to the Governor General by the imperial authorities, recommending the Canadian Government to take action on the law of Divorce:

DOWNING STREET,
14th April, 1858.

SIR—In transmitting to you a copy of the Act 'to amend the law relating to Divorce and Matrimonial Causes in England,' I wish to call your attention to the great importance of the subject.

Her Majesty's Government regard this subject as within the general class of material matters upon the duty and right of regulating which by the Colonial legislatures under free constitutions.

But they are at the same time fully sensible of the great importance of uniformity of legislation on this head, so far as it can be attained without injury to those principles of Colonial government, and the desire, as well to probe morality as to family interests, which might arise in the Law of the Colonies on the subject of marriage and divorce differing materially from that of the Mother Country, and of each other.

It is therefore the wish of Her Majesty's Government that you should consult your Council as to the expediency of at once introducing a measure which shall incorporate, as nearly as the circumstances of the Colony will admit, the provisions of the Act recently passed in England.

Some of the minor provisions of the Act may possibly prove incompatible with the requirements of the Colony, nor is it my wish to prescribe uniformity in such immaterial particulars. But the serious questions which might arise from different legislation on that portion of the subject which relates to dissolution of Marriage, or Divorce a vinculo—questions possibly affecting the validity of Marriages contracted in one part of the empire after Divorce in another, and consequent legitimacy of offspring—render it advisable that, if the Legislature should pass any Act varying to an important degree from the present Law of England in this particular, you should reserve it for the consideration of Her Majesty. Therefore in most Governor's Instructions relating to Divorce Acts has been usually held to apply only to special Bills for the Divorce of married persons, and you need not consider yourself in any way fettered by its provisions.

I find from communications received from parts of Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions that an impression existed that the Imperial Government designed to propose to Parliament a measure for extending the Law to the dominions of the Crown in General. I am not aware on what ground this has been supposed, and can only state that no such measure is in contemplation.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) STANLEY.

Mr. O'REILLY AT THE BELLEVILLE ASSIZES.

The Crown cases at the present Assizes were conducted by Mr. O'Reilly, of Kingston, and one cannot refrain from paying a just tribute to that gentleman for the impartial manner in which he has conducted the Criminal business. The Intelligencer has found fault with the Government in sending Mr. O'Reilly here, who is not a Q.C. The grounds on which that journal rests its objections are, that Mr. O'Reilly is junior to the County Attorney. This is not fair, for the simple reason that Mr. O'Reilly is an experienced and able Crown officer (he has been engaged in many of the most important Crown causes during the present Assizes, and has been invariably successful. This of itself would be sufficient justification.—But now-a-days, since we are accustomed to see Barristers ignorant, we cannot be surprised at the present state of things, or that a lawyer of his standing has not secured a silk gown. Ever since Mr. O'Reilly left the office of the Hon. John Ross, where he pursued his studies in our town, and went to practice his profession in Kingston, he has secured an eminent position at the Bar. The only regret is that the Intelligencer should have' placed his abilities on a par with those of the County Attorney.

Mr. O'Reilly in his conduct of the Crown cases at our assizes, has secured for himself a greater degree of public confidence than most persons of his years at the Bar can boast of. Although a Junior, it is to be hoped that the highest honors of his profession are ultimately within his reach.

If we had only a lawyer of his discrimination and forbearance filling the office of County Attorney, there would be less to complain of in the administration of criminal justice in our County.—Hastings Chronicle.

THE SICKLES VERDICT.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENE IN COURT.

Washington, April 26.

The following is a graphic description of the closing scenes of the Sickles trial:—The door is opened and the deputy Marshall calls out 'Make room for the jury.' In they come one by one, and proceed to take their seats in the boxes. There is a general movement to the crowded court room to get a look at their faces. All restraint is forgotten. Benches and forms and tables are mounted by the most excited, or most adventurous. 'Here they come,' is heard formally spoken on all sides, then there is a succession of cries of 'Down in front!' 'Get off the benches!' 'Sit down!' 'Silence in Court!' 'Order, order!' but it seems impossible to restore order. The Judge directs the clerk to call the names of the jury. The uproar instantly subsides, and as the clerk calls the jurors, they severally respond, one of the officers calling out the number. When the twelfth name was called and responded to, a pin might have been heard to drop in the suddenly stillest crowd. The jury are all standing.

The Clerk—Daniel E. Sickles, stand up and look at the jury.

Sickles stood up.

The Clerk—How say you, gentlemen? Have you agreed to your verdict?

Mr. Arnold—We have.

The Clerk—How say you? Do you find the prisoner at the bar guilty or not guilty?

Mr. Arnold—Not guilty.

As these words fell from the lips of the foreman, there was one wild, thrilling human hurrah sent up by the spectators. Cheer after cheer resounded in the Court-room, and was taken up by the multitude on the outside and repeated. Hats and handkerchiefs were waved, and there was one general rush towards the dock. In the midst of the uproar, the stentorian voice of Mr. Stanton was heard addressing the Court in those words:—'I move that Sickles be discharged from custody.'

Marshal Sibley—Come to order, gentlemen; this is a place where there should be no noise.

Mr. Stanton, boiling over with excitement, said,—In the name of Mr. Sickles and counsel, I desire to return thanks to the jury.

Judge Crawford, who appeared to be the only person in court not excited, said,—'Mr. Stanton, wait till the verdict is recorded.'

The Clerk—(to jury)—Your verdict is, that you find Daniel E. Sickles 'Not Guilty.'

The Jury nodded affirmatively.

Mr. Stanton—I now move that Mr. Sickles be discharged from custody.

Judge Crawford—The Court so orders.

Mr. Stanton, turning round, said,—'Now go it.'

The Judge said—'No noise.'

The precaution was not needed. Sickles, amid the renewed cheers of the audience, was taken from the dock. Cash, Wiley and Mr Bogart, the former who is one of Sickles' most devoted friends, kissed him at the moment of deliverance, and lead fast by him as they tried to make their way to the door. It was slow work, for congratulations, earnest, loud, and frankly expressed, saluted Sickles at all points. Though strong emotion was exhibited, his eye was calm and steady, and the effort which he manifestly made to retain calmness and composure was successful. His expression betrayed no feeling of joy, but was rather that of a man who felt as though he had run no risk, and that the trial through which he had passed could have had no other result.

The jury evinced a desire to congratulate him, and he stopped over the forms to meet their salutations, which were heartily tendered. Finally, by dint of much crushing and great exertion, a passage to the door was effected. As soon as he was recognized from the outside, the cheers were again taken up. Mr. Shaw of the Herald, had rushed to the National Hotel as soon as the jury returned to a verdict, and jumping on the driver's box, drove a carriage to the Court House. As Mr. Sickles stepped down the stone stairs of the City Hall, surrounded and supported by his immediate personal friends, he was again cheered.

Calls were made for a speech. With considerable exertion, for he was fast becoming faint, he was got into one of the carriages in waiting, together with Messrs. Graham, Wiley, and Dixon of New York. A movement was made by the crowd to take the horses out of the carriage and draw it themselves, but the movement was detected in time and prevented. Finally the carriage drove away, followed by many others and an immense crowd. Mr. Sickles was taken to the house of Mr. M. Hunt, next door to his former residence.

PARLIAMENTARY.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

April 26.

Mr. Smith moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Cobourg Harbor Act, which was carried.

The House then went into committee on the bill; the committee went through the bill and reported the same with some amendments.

Mr. Drummond moved that the report be not now received, but that it be referred back for the purpose of striking out the clause imposing a postage on newspapers.

Mr. Moore said the postage on newspapers would not affect a cent, but would restrict the spread of political knowledge.

Mr. Thibaudeau would vote for the bill, because he thought publicists carried enough for their papers to cover the extra charge. The tax was one which weighed on the rich, and it was no harm at all to make them pay a little more.

Mr. McGee differed altogether from the last speaker.

Mr. Drummond said that Lower Canada would suffer much more from this measure than Upper Canada. It would cause the poor man to pay much more for his paper. He thought it a most obnoxious tax.

Mr. Dessaulles contended it could not be called a tax. It was only a payment for work performed. He thought the Government had acted wisely in bringing forward this measure, and that it was one with which the country at large would be satisfied.

Mr. Laberge said this Government had abandoned, one after another, all the reforms which it had promised some had initiated.

Mr. Smith said there was no class of the community more paid than the Postmasters of this country. There were jobs of them, and in many instances they had more than double the salary they ought to receive. He (Mr. Smith) might take this opportunity of announcing that he had made arrangements with the Grand Trunk Railway Company to dispatch a train from Montreal every night in connection with a train daily after the arrival of the train from Western Canada. In three weeks from this time the Montreal and Quebec mail would be passed sometimes in twenty hours later than by the ordinary train. Even at Chicago letters might be passed at a later period than at present. Through passengers too, would be enabled to pass all night in Toronto, instead of, as at present, travelling all night to Montreal.

The House divided on the amendment, which was voted down—Yeas 31; nays 46.

The report was then concurred in, and the third reading fixed for to-morrow.

COMPENSATION TO MEMBERS.

Attorney General Cartier moved the House into committee of the whole relating to the compensation to be paid to members.

The motion was carried, and Dr. Dorland was called to the chair.

Mr. Cartier said he took it for granted that all the members had read the resolutions. The main object was to fix a moderate allowance. (The gentleman here explained the resolutions which have already been published in the columns.) He thought three months was a period long enough for almost any session, and the allowance of $600 was fixed on that time. If the business of the House was expedited in a shorter time, although the allowance to members would be the same, yet there would be great saving, because other incidental expenses would be reduced. If, by the measure led to the shortening of the session there would be a great saving to the public funds.

Mr. Mackenzie said he was in favor of paying a little more under the then existing system, but it would cause sure way to the country.

Mr. F. Polk thought there should be a per diem allowance throughout, and that the general par should not last longer than 100 days. His impression would be that twenty shillings—$6 a day for the first thirty days, and a less allowance for the rest.

Mr. J. A. Macdonald said he thought this would shorten the length of sessions and thus lead to a saving.

Mr. Brown—Calculating the members' pay at six, there would be a very direct loss as compared with the average of the last twenty years.

Mr. Powell moved in an amendment that 60 days be substituted for 30, as the number of days for which a member should receive $6 a day, after which there should be a sessional allowance of $300.

Mr. Brown thought this would lead to economy. Sessions need not and would not always last 60 days.

Mr. Galt pointed out that when a session occurred later than about the 60th day of the session, the House only adjourned, was not prorogued.

Mr. Drummond thought the object would be gained by a $4 allowance for 30 days rather than for 60.

The amendment was lost—yeas 33; nays 50.

The remaining resolutions were gone through and reported. The reports were agreed to, and a bill founded thereon introduced and read a first time.

Toronto, April 28.

Amongst the bills which were yesterday read a third time in the House and passed were Mr. Galt's Northern Railway bill, and Mr Seley Smith's bill imposing a postage on newspapers and otherwise dealing with the post-office laws. The newspaper tax is to come into operation on the 1st of July.

Mr. Aikins' bill to incorporate the medical profession in Upper Canada, under the name of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, gave rise to an animated debate, and was referred to Committee of the Whole, against the will of ministers, by a vote of 47 to 15. Immediately after having gone into committee, a motion was made that the committee do rise. The division was so close that the chairman appointed tellers, who reported the motion carried. The division was in a scene of delectable confusion whilst the counting was going on; and the accuracy of the tellers' report was doubted. The committee rose, however; and the dodge defeated the bill.

Mr. Drummond's motion to go into Committee on the Clifton Suspension Bridge Company's bill—it by the six months' hoist, by Mr. Merritt—and on a division taken, an adjournment was carried.

The McLean Divorce Bill called forth a display by Mr. Cameron; but the House went into Committee upon it, nevertheless, by 58 to 33. On the same division it was read a third time and passed.

The House then adjourned.

Toronto, April 28.

The Attorney General West moved the second reading of the bill to amend and extend the law relating to the Militia of this Province, which, after much discussion, and an attempt to do away with the annual muster, was carried.

The House went into committee on the bill.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Mr. Alexander presented the report of the Select Committee on the Homœopathic Practitioners Bill without amendment. After some discussion the House amended the bill in Committee of the whole, by requiring four instead of three years study in practitioners, when it was read a third time and passed. Yeas 21; Nays 16. The House was occupied with the third reading of the bill until 2 o'clock, when it rose.

The third reading of the Married Womens' separate rights of Property Bill was moved, but after some discussion was postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. Dessaulles moved the second reading of the Lower Canada Settlers Protection bill, and spoke at some length in favor of the principle of the bill, which is to give bona fide settlers on land a property on the improvement effected by them, even when their title to the soil is invalid.

Mr. Bolton opposed the bill as unjustly trenching upon the rights of property, and moved that it be read this day three months.

Mr. Holis Smith seconded the amendment.

Sir E. P. Taché supported the bill, as did Mr. Panet.

Mr. Campbell, Mr. Moore and Mr. Knowlton opposed the bill.

THE SEIGNORIAL TENURE.

(*From the Globe.*)

Toronto, April 27.

The great bribery bill was brought up for its second reading yesterday in the Upper House, and occupied the attention of their honours till a much later hour than it is usual for them to sit in Council. Mr. Vankoughnet opened with a speech explanatory of the bill, and was followed by Mr. Dessaulles in a very brilliant address, showing more debating talent than has yet been displayed by any other member of the Council. Speaking in English, a language in which he is comparatively unskilled, his address was carefully prepared, and was full of epigrammatic point and force. Mr. Dessaulles denounced the bill warmly, for its bribes to Upper Canada and the townships, and also for the injustice done to the citizens of Montreal. He also complained that injustice had been done to the seigniors in the settlement of their claims, and protested against the clause which allows them only 75 per cent, if they commute with the government. His speech told strongly on the government and the House, so much so that Mr. Vankoughnet felt it necessary to make a very warm reply. After a few words from Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Campbell of Kingston made a good speech against the bill. He took strong Upper Canada ground, reiterating, in a very clear and forcible way, all the arguments which could be urged from that point of view. He was interrupted by Colonel Taché who said that Upper Canada paid two-thirds of the taxation, but he produced the figures in support of his position, and argued the matter with all the promptitude and skill of an experienced debater. Mr. Alexander followed and spoke well and fearlessly, as a representative of Western interests and feelings. The financial extravagance and other baneful results of the union with Lower Canada came under his review, and he described the indignation felt throughout Upper Canada against the existing state of things as of the most intense character. Coming from a man of Mr. Alexander's well-known moderation, his speech was well calculated to arouse the attention of the House. Sir E. P. Taché came next, full of fire and fury against Upper Canada, shewing that Lower Canada had done everything for the Western country, that it was her money that had made its prosperous, that she paid at least one-half of the taxes, that her exports to foreign countries were large, that, in short, Upper Canada was a miserably poor broken down country, and Lower Canada a garden of plenty. Mr. Foley rebutted him very happily by saying that, of course, the Anglo-Saxons understood perfectly well that they were an inferior race, that they did nothing so well as the French Canadians, and he was only surprised that the gallant knight should not have pity on them and not call against them so lustily.—Colonel Taché had the assurance to make a deliberate misstatement in reference to the respective positions of Mr. Brown and his colleagues of last July on the question of the Tenure; he said that Mr. Brown had been contradicted by his colleagues on the subject. Soon afterwards, Mr. Morris read from Mr. Dorion's speech in the House on Friday week, which showed that Mr. Brown and Mr. Dorion, who were the leaders of the Government, and who had the best right to speak to the point, perfectly agreed in their version of the matter. Colonel Taché had not the candour to acknowledge his deliberate misstatement, but turned the matter off with a gibe about the policy of the Brown-Dorion Government. Mr. Morris was indisposed, and contented himself with expressing briefly his strong opposition to the Bill. Mr. Moore spoke in reply, and as it was now nearly twelve o'clock, a vote was taken on a motion to adjourn, the ministry opposing it, and desiring to get through the second reading. They were only saved from defeat by the casting vote of the Speaker. Mr. Allan then spoke briefly against the bill, and also Mr. Crooks, and the vote was taken on the second reading. It was 25 to 15. The Upper Canadians who voted for the bill were only five in number, and four of them were ministers, Vankoughnet and Ross; the others were Mills, Perry, and Matheson, all life-members. The fifteen who voted against it were Upper Canadians—Alexander, Allan, Campbell, Christie, Crooks, DeBlaquiere, Ferguson, Goodhue, Hamilton, McDonald, Morris, Murney, Patton, Seymour, and Barthanus Smith. The majority of the absent are opposed to the bill, and it is likely that there will be a larger vote against it on the third reading. Several members declared that they would support the second reading, but would not go further, unless amendments were made. We are compelled to postpone the publication of the debate till to-morrow.

THE SEIGNORIAL TENURE BILL PASSED BY THE COUNCIL.

Taking advantage of a thin attendance in the Council Chamber yesterday afternoon, Mr. Vankoughnet moved the third reading of the Seigniorial Tenure Bill. Mr. Morris moved an amendment, designed to defeat that feature of the bill which confers upon an ecclesiastical corporation—the Seminary of St. Sulpice—the right to acquire control of real estate in Upper Canada. Hitherto the Seminary has been obliged to limit its operations to Lower Canada, where it has enormous possessions, and vast accumulated means. The present bill confers upon it the power of investing its means in Upper Canadian bonds and mortgages, and of thus indirectly getting into its hands an unlimited quantity of land situated in this section of the Province. All the provisions of the bill relating to this Seminary are bad—bad to Montreal and other places in Lower Canada; but this enlargement of its powers,—this opening of Upper Canada to the operations of a wealthy ecclesiastical corporation situated in Lower Canada—is flagrant injustice. In the Council, however, as in the House, Lower Canadian votes enabled ministers to consummate the wrong; Mr. Morris' amendment having been voted down by 26 to 11. Only five Upper Canadians aided the majority against Upper Canada; namely, Messrs. Boulton, Crawford, Ferrie, Matheson and Ross. Subsequently, the third reading was carried by a vote of 24 to 11. The bill only awaits His Excellency's sanction, therefore, to become law.—[Globe 28th.

FIRE AT TORONTO.—A few minutes before twelve o'clock on Wednesday night, flames were seen to issue from the stable attached to the dwelling and tavern of Mr. Luke Beatty, on Adelaide Street. Immediately on the fire being observed, measures were taken to extinguish it. This they succeeded in doing before much injury was done. The fire had apparently originated in the upper part of the interior of the stable, which contained a quantity of hay and other inflammable matter. The firemen turned out with praiseworthy promptitude, but, fortunately, their services were not required. It is supposed that the stable was designedly fired.

AMERICAN LINE OF STEAMERS—CHANGE IN THE PROGRAMME.—During the past week there has been a new arrangement made, and the Line of American Steamers thereby given into the hands of two companies. The old company suffered a division, and the boats have been divided between the two companies. The owners at Ogdensburgh have taken the Jenny Lind, New York and Northerner. The Syracuse, Rome and Utica owners have taken the Cataract, Niagara, Bay State, Ontario and two of the river steamers. Each company will run its boats when and where they choose, except that the Ogdensburgh Company is not to follow the southern shore of Lake Ontario. Capt. Tuttop is to have charge of the line made up of the Cataract, Niagara, Bay State and Ontario. The Cataract and Niagara have been thoroughly overhauled, and commence their regular trips between Ogdensburgh, Toronto and Lewiston today. A tri-weekly line will run for the present, and in a few days the Ontario and Bay State will be brought out and form a daily line.

The Ogdensburgh company have not decided upon their plans. They are now negotiating with parties in New York for the sale of their boats, and until the matter is disposed of will make no arrangements for a line on the lake. In case they should not sell, then they will doubtless put their boats on an Express line, touching at most ports on Lake Ontario. E. B. ALLEN is President of the company, and in him is vested much responsibility.—Oswego Times.

Another Boundary Dispute with America.

It would seem as though we were on the eve of another dispute with America, a boundary question. The discovery of the gold districts in British Columbia created a new interest in those regions which, until then, were comparatively unknown. It is not surprising that under present circumstances both countries should wish to put upon the treaty of 1846 as favourable a construction as it will bear, for the advancement of their own interests, though the interpretation should be a little strained.

When the Oregon boundary dispute was settled, it was agreed by the first article of the treaty that—

'From the point on the 49th parallel of north latitude where the boundary laid down in existing treaties and conventions between the United States and Great Britain terminates [on the summit of the Rocky Mountains] the line of boundary shall be continued westward along the said parallel of north latitude to the middle of the Channel which separates the continent from Vancouver's Island, and thence southerly through the middle of the said channel and of Fuca's Straits to the Pacific Ocean.'

Now, it so happens that 'the channel separating the continent from Vancouver's Island' has a number of islands in or near its centre, which create two channels at least. The question raised is, which channel was meant in the treaty. The Americans say the one farthest from their own shore, because that gives them possession of the islands lying to the south, if the line is so drawn. The English hold the contrary opinion, and contend that the southern channel was meant. The islands in dispute contain about 120,000 acres of good land, and it is said coal has been found in more than one of them. But their real importance is derived from the idea that fortifications erected thereon would command both channels, and so control the vast commerce which must one day pass through these waters. One American account says this is a delusion—that the channels are far too wide to be covered by any fortifications, and that, in fact, the matter is not worth fighting about. Nous verrons.—Globe.

New York, April 29.

FROM WASHINGTON.—England has signified her willingness to accept Secretary Marcy's proposition, substantially, for the exemption of all private property from seizure on the ocean, but Mr. Buchanan intends upon a condition respecting blockades, which effectually prevents the conclusion of the negotiation.

Washington, April 29.

Richard Cobden arrived last night, and is staying with the President.

IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE AFRICA.

War Regarded as Inevitable.

NEW YORK, April 28.

The royal mail steamship Africa, from Liverpool on the 16th instant, reached her dock at half-past six p. m. Her news has been mainly anticipated by the Canadian.

The Dresden Journal alleges its acquaintance with the fact that, according to a recent counter-proposal by France, which is also said to be seconded in other quarters, the Congress will assemble April 23rd, at Carlsruhe, Baden, and commence operations by resolving on a general disarming.

The Paris despatches state that the progress of the negotiations of Congress is very slow, owing to the great difficulties to be overcome.

The London News says that it is just as possible that the Congress may prepare and embitter, instead of averting a war.

The Paris correspondence of the London Herald says there were reasons for believing that Austria's proposals as to the points to be submitted to the Congress are wholly unacceptable to France.

The Paris Patrie says that France cannot be expected to diminish her army, nor to send back a single cannon to the arsenals.

GREAT BRITAIN.—In the House of Commons, Lord Stanley had stated that the duty on hardware in India was to be increased from 5 to 10 per cent., on both foreign and British manufacture.

It was intended that Parliament should be dissolved on the 21st, in which case the borough elections would take place on the 27th of April, and the county elections on the 2nd of May.

Thirty of the Neapolitan exiles have left England.

Lady Morgan, the authoress, is dead.

FRANCE.—All the French officers on leave have been ordered to join their ships forthwith.

A rumor was afloat that the Emperor would soon depart for Lyons.

The receipt of a memorandum from Count Buol, hostile to Piedmont, was spoken of.

Warlike materials are accumulating at Marseilles to an alarming extent. Five steam frigates had gone to Algeria, it is supposed to bring troops back to France.

The Memorial Diplomatique had been allowed to resume its issue.

The Daily News Paris correspondent says that Lord Cowley and Count Walewski, after a long discussion, separated with the conviction that very serious differences of opinion exist between France and England.

Nine gun-boats for the Adriatic are ordered to be made ready at Cherbourg without delay.

AUSTRIA.—The Archduke Albrecht has gone on a special mission to Berlin.

Austria was willing to make important concessions to Prussia on certain points in dispute, and a perfect understanding between them was considered highly probable.

Warlike preparations are continued by some of the smaller German states. The Bavarian army had been placed on a war footing.

The Times' Vienna correspondent states that during the last few days several of the leading papers had openly declared that the Germans would not shed one drop of blood either for the maintenance of the special treaties or for the Austrian Concordat.

The Moniteur publishes a decree, ordering an apportionment of 100,000 conscripts among the different departments. This is the whole contingent of the year. In ordinary years 80,000, and in some years only 40,000 have been called out.

A letter from Munich states that the cavalry and infantry of the Bavarian army are to be placed on a war footing, and before the end of the month all Germany will be in arms.

ITALY.—The political prisoners at Naples, whose fate was determined by the decree of the 18th ult., had received passports to the United States.

It was reported at Rome that the Pope would protest against the European Congress.

Sir Moses Montefiore had arrived at Rome, with a petition from the Jews in England and America, in favor of the boy Mortara.

Rumors were current that the King of Naples was either dead or in the last extremities. Nothing authentic was known, however.

HOLLAND.—Holland and Belgium are said to have concluded a treaty for mutual defence in case of war.

St. Petersburg, April 12.

RUSSIA.—The opening of navigation is anticipated in about eight days.

WALLACHIA.—A rail road machine supposed to be intended for the Danube Canal has been discovered and seven persons arrested.

EGYPT.—Advices are favorable to the Suez Canal. Public functionaries were ordered to assist M. Lesseps, and the Governor of Suez had been deposed.

CHOSIN CHINA.—The attack on Sargon took place on the 17th of February, and was perfectly successful. Nine forts, strongly armed, were carbonaded and stormed. The French loss was small, but the enemy's was heavy.

INDIA AND CHINA.—Letters add nothing of moment to accounts already published.

At Amoy trade was stopped by the report that a body of rebels had attacked Chang Chow. The report required confirmation.

LONDON.—The Paris correspondent of the Daily News says that the result of the second meeting of the Conference is, that England, France, Russia, Prussia and Sardinia recognize the double union of Moldavia. Austria and Turkey stood alone.

A St. Petersburg despatch of the 13th instant announces that in consequence of a victory by General Torsinge, 2,000 Circassians had come into the Russian camp.

The Times' Paris correspondent describes the aspect of affairs as so sombre, as to justify the resuscitation of all hopes of peace.

Five thousand more troops had arrived in Marseilles from Algiers.

PARLIAMENTARY.

Toronto, April 29.

The morning sitting of the Assembly was entirely occupied by a debate upon the militia bill.

The Attorney General explained that he had expunged all that part of the bill relating to the commutation for attendance at muster. The bill was then read a second time without a division. On the motion to go into committee, Mr. Foley proposed to do away with the annual muster, which was lost. It was then proposed to do away with the annual muster in Upper Canada, which was also lost. During the discussion, Colonel Playfair and Major Campbell spoke at some length in support of the measure. The attempt to create sectional feeling by the motion, with regard to the annual muster, was also strongly deprecated by several members.

When the House met in 3 o'clock, the militia bill was passed through committee, and read a third time and passed.

The bill to impose a duty on foreign-built vessels was then read a third time.

The Inspector General then moved that the House go into committee of supply on the supplementary and militia estimates.

In amendment, Mr. J. S. Macdonald moved a resolution, affirming the Double Majority principle, and spoke at some length in support of his motion, quoting the opinions of the Attorney General for Upper Canada at the time of the resignation of Sir Allan MacNab, and when a similar motion to the present was subsequently made, and contending that the people of Upper Canada were placed in a deplorable position of inferiority to Lower Canada by the mode in which the government had been carried on for the last two years.

Col Playfair replied to some attacks that had been made upon him.

Mr Gowan declared himself opposed to the amendment, but said that if the contract of the Lower Canadians was persisted in, where consequences would follow than were spoken of in the resolutions.

Mr. Morin opposed the motion and in doing so strongly condemned the conduct of the Opposition, who were guided by no principles nor by no common sentiments. He denied that there was any desire on the part of Lower Canada to be unjust to Upper Canada, but said they were bound to protect themselves and their institutions from the attacks of those who reviled them.

Mr. Patrick made a rambling attack upon the Government. He had always opposed the double majority before, but he would support it now as the only means of preserving the Union.

Mr. Cauchon opposed the motion, and condemned it as unsatisfactory in its terms. Mr. McGee complimented the fairness and justice of the Upper Canadians, and spoke of the necessity of a spirit of mutual compromise between the two sections of the Province. Mr. Burwell and Mr. McDougall spoke in support of the motion, the latter declaring himself in favor of a repeal of the Union, and of some modification of our system of government. As he had given up all hope of obtaining representation by population, he would go for the double majority system. Mr. Morat did not think that the double majority would cure all the evils under which the country labored, and some change must soon take place. He believed that a large portion of the people of Upper Canada were in favor of a repeal of the Union.

The motion was then put and lost.—Yeas 38; nays 61.

The House then went into committee of supply and the Inspector General proceeded to explain the various items in the estimates, which we have already published in full