

Correspondence.

(Circular.)

Health: the great desideratum of the day.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We would take this method of addressing you on a most important subject. We come to you as a Missionary of Health! We have no supernatural wonders to relate—no nostrums to propose—no poisonous drugs to dispose of; but our mission is very different: we wish to call your attention to plain facts, simple truths, and intelligible subjects. We wish to address your common sense, to induce you to think for yourselves—to understand the laws of your own being, and thereby insure yourself health and all its train of attendant blessings.

Look around you, survey the sanitary aspect of all civilized society. Do we not see everywhere disease the prevailing condition of society, and health the exception? This should not be. It need not be. The fault is ours and yours that it is so. The animals below us, less protected and cared for than man, are, as a general rule, healthy. The human beings, though endowed with a higher grade of vitality, the most exalted powers of self-preservation, and the most perfect organization, are, as a general rule, sickly.

Why is this? Is there not a cause? Can not this cause be ascertained? And, more, can it not be corrected? Once, universal health was the blissful heritage of mankind. History, sacred and profane, inform us that, in the early history of our race, disease was unknown for a period of two thousand years. True, men died and were gathered to their fathers: but not till ripe, like the fruit in autumn. They were not cut off by pestilences. Fevers, inflammations, rheumatism, dyspepsia, consumptions, palsies, plagues, or choleras were unheard of.

Why is it so different now? More than half the children born die in infancy. Why do so many hundred persons, most of them in the pride of life, die yearly? And why are the great majority of our adult population, especially females, full of diseases and infirmities, at the very period of life when Nature and Providence intended all to be health, vigor, usefulness, and enjoyment? The answer must be given—We have gone astray! Nature is not malignant. We have erred. We have lived in ignorance of the conditions of health. We are continually getting into false relations to the laws of life, and are always suffering the inevitable consequences.

But the question may be asked—“Why will we suffer, and why will we die,” when it is so much pleasanter, easier, and cheaper to live and enjoy?

There is “balm in Gilead, and there is a physician there.” That balm is knowledge, and that physician is Nature in the constitution. The balm is accessible to all, the healing power is within us. It is this balm we would persuade you to seek: it is this physician whose monitions we would urge you to obey. And when you understand these views clearly, you will never more take into your system the most virulent poisons because you are sick. No; if you take them at all—and we would advise you never to do so—take them when you are in health, and not compel the outraged organism, when struggling against one cause of disease, to war also with another enemy, in the shape of a drug-poison, and thus destroy itself in the unequal contest.

You will ask, what have we to offer in its place? We have intimated already. But if we had nothing as a substitute you would be the infinite gainers by repudiating that. We propose, however, to teach the laws of health, and the way to apply them, so as to avoid the causes of disease; and if, unfortunately, by accident, or neglect, you do become sick, we will demonstrate to you a better way of curing your maladies—a method which consists in the use of means and agencies, themselves compatible with the living organism, perfectly safe in the application, and absolutely sure in the result.

Do you ask for proof? It is as notorious as the sun. For many years, hundreds and thousands, both in Europe and America, have adopted this system, and lived in the enjoyment of uninterrupted health. And, moreover, nearly all manner of diseases have been treated by this system with unparalleled success; and physicians, of large experience and eminent scholarship, have treated all the prevalent diseases with uniformly successful results. To be more specific—Common Fevers, Typhus, Ship, and Scarlet Fevers, Small Pox, Measles, Pneumonias, Diarrheas, Dysentery, Cholera Morbus, Cholera

Infantum, Consumption, Dyspepsia, &c., &c., have been treated with perfect success.

We propose to explain, at some other time, to the non-professional reader, subjects connected with Diet, Bathing, Temperance, Air, Light, Clothing, Exercise, and Rest: Dwellings, Occupation, the Passions, &c., &c., and to apply them to the Preservation of Health and the Cure of Disease, so that all may intelligently undertake the care of their own health, to the end that general health—the true basis of all reform in the world, of all individual happiness, of all social improvement, and of all human progress—may be again the happy condition of the human family.

We solicit your attention to this subject, knowing full well that the system advocated is not well understood by the people generally. It is not unfrequently misrepresented by the interested, and often misapplied by the ignorant and uninitiated.

We want the people to know precisely what it is, confident that the more they become acquainted with it the better they will like it.

N. B.—Persons wishing advice or treatment will please call at 138 Gortengon St., Halifax, (opposite Rev. P. G. McGregor's.) See Card in daily papers.

Advice to the poor without charge. Halifax, N. S., August 4th, 1859.

For the Christian Messenger.

“A Married Woman,” in writing to us respecting a small paragraph which, a week or two since, accidentally got in with our reflections, says:—

“In your last number you informed us why a ship was called *she*. Might it not, with more propriety, be said that it is on account of the vast amount of labor she performs, and of the many ways in which she is useful to mankind. It was hinted that ships resemble women, because they are useless without employment. I would advise any woman that is suffering from this complaint and feels desirous of being cured, that she would quickly unite herself to a man, [our fair correspondent means, we presume, put herself in the way of one.] and I will engage that she will never have to complain for want of employment or find time to ‘carry news.’ Those men who spend so much of their precious time in criticising woman's costume, forgetting to appreciate her real character, and that she has equal rights and privileges with man, I would recommend to keep away from them as far as possible. If woman is likened to a ship, I think one of these would, very appropriately, be likened to a ship's captain, who thinks more of a glass of strong drink than of the valuable charge committed to him, which, by his neglect, he renders useless.

“In my opinion, it would be well to have a place set apart, which we might call ‘The Isle of Bliss,’ from which women should be excluded. All such men could go and spend a life of happiness, secluded from the society of woman. Here they might have abundance of rum and tobacco, which would doubtless add to their enjoyment. And if it happened that any of our married men—captains—should become discontented with their lot, a visit to this happy isle might prove a benefit.”

For the Christian Messenger.

Early deaths.

Died, at Upper Economy, March 10th, by disease of the throat, MELVILLE CROWE, son of Mr. Patrick Crowe, aged 6 years and 1 month. As he was a very amiable child, the trial was great to his parents; but they bore it with Christian fortitude and resignation.

Another very severe affliction was appointed to two of our young members, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fulton. On June 19th, by the scarlet fever and putrid sore throat, they lost a beloved little girl, ELLA LOUISA FULTON, aged 3 years and 9 months. She was a very engaging and amiable child. Though she was so young, her mind seemed to be spiritual and heavenly. Shortly before she died, she told her mourning parents that she was going to heaven to Jesus.

Only about three weeks after, on July 9th, our dear brother and sister, by the same disease, lost their only remaining child, a little boy, AMOS SELDEN FULTON, aged 1 year and 8 months. To these young followers of Christ this is a very painful trial. In the course of three weeks they have lost both their children. They have been brought very suddenly into a state of great affliction and sorrow. Though they bear the trial in an exemplary manner, the pathetic language of the prophet Jeremiah xxxi. 15, very aptly describes their grief and trouble—“Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.”

Died, June 15th, NAOMI DINSMORE, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dinsmore, aged 15 years. For some time previous to her death her mind was much distressed and afraid that the Lord would not have mercy upon her; but, as the Lord ever hears the cry of the poor and needy, he heard her earnest prayer and granted her request. Before her decease she was not only enabled to trust in the Saviour, but she experienced a blessed peace of mind and a hope of acceptance with God. She endured all her severe pains with great patience until death brought a release, and we trust her ransomed spirit has entered that happy world where pain and sorrow are feared and felt no more.

Died, of putrid sore throat, ALMIRA COOK, aged 10 years and 6 months, daughter of Mrs. Nancy Cook, a member of the Baptist Church in Portauptique. Being favored with the instructions of a pious mother and of devoted teachers in the Sabbath School, she seems to have experienced the grace of God some time ago. On one occasion, being absent from home, and hearing a person swear, she told him that the Bible tells us that we must not take the name of God in vain. Her sickness was short—only about four weeks. Three days before her death she gave up all hope of recovering. Being asked concerning the state of her soul, she said she felt very sinful. Her mother told her that the Lord Jesus died to save sinners, and he is willing to save all that come to him. Being again asked if she thought her sins were forgiven, she replied “I do not know.” Her mind was now much exercised in respect to her acceptance with God. But at length the Lord looked upon her in mercy and gave her a sweet sense of his love. She then told her mother that she had got the pardon of sin and a hope of going to heaven. Being told that heaven was a holy place, that the holy Jehovah and the holy angels were there, she replied, “Mother, I have seen the angels, they are clothed in white garments. My father is there too.” Being asked whether she would stay with her and her brothers and sister, she said, “I would rather go to heaven.” When distressed with pain, she would often say that she would soon be at rest. Shortly before she died, she seemed to be very happy and was much inclined to speak, but, on account of her shortness of breath, she could utter only a few words. About the last words she spoke were, “Tell Mr. Reid—” It was a charge to me. She could not finish the sentence. Death had now come, when, without the least struggle, she gave up her spirit and fell asleep in Christ. At her funeral a sermon was preached from 2 Kings iv. 26—“Is it well with the child? And she answered, It is well.” On the occasion a hymn was sung, which she had chosen, called “The funeral bell.” And then, according to her request, she was buried beside her father. But though her body is lying there, we feel confident that her soul is with the redeemed around the throne of God. May her happy death be blessed to all our young people. May we all be prepared for our great and last change.—Communicated by Rev. James Reid.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notices.

SARAH JANE MORSE,

Elders daughter of Daniel and Susan Morse, died at Nictaux, April 17th, 1859, in the 30th year of her age.

Our departed Sister entertained a hope in the Saviour at the early age of 13 years. She was baptized by the Rev. I. E. Bill, in 1848, and united with the Baptist Church in Nictaux. From childhood she was the subject of deep affliction. Being naturally of an amiable disposition she was much beloved by all who had the pleasure of her acquaintance. The religious character of our departed sister did not consist in name only, but in active piety, giving evidence that Christ was formed in her soul the hope of glory. When her health would permit she delighted to enjoy the privileges of the house of God, and encourage her young companions to adorn the doctrine of God their Saviour. For the last few months of her life she was confined to the house, but the most of the time enjoyed the assurance that the Lord was her Shepherd and she should not want. Her protracted illness was borne with Christian resignation to the Divine Will. She selected for her funeral text: Revelations vii. 14. Her parents enjoy the satisfaction of believing that their first-born is with Christ above, and they sorrow not as those without hope. She has left parents, brothers and sisters, to mourn her loss, with the blessed hope of a happy reunion in heaven.

Dear as thou wert and justly dear,

We will not weep for thee;

One thought shall check the starting tear,

It is, that thou art free.

—Com. by Rev. W. G. Parker.

Nictaux, July 21st, 1859.

MRS. LOUISA WOODWORTH.

Wife of the late Asel Woodworth, of Stewiacke, whom she survived but two years. Being of Presbyterian parentage, she retained the sentiments of that body till after her marriage. In 1834 she professed faith in the Saviour and was baptized by the Rev. George Richardson; since which time she adorned the profession by a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. She was indeed a blessing to the church and community in which she dwelt. Ever ready to minister to all the disciples of Christ, she was nobly seconded by her husband during his life, and since then by the elder branches of their family. Our departed sister's virtues shone most in the family circle. She was deeply interested in the progress of the gospel in the world, and for this she highly valued the *Christian Messenger*. Her mother became a member of the Baptist Church in Halifax or Dartmouth, which was a source of much satisfaction to her.

She had twelve children, nine of whom survive her. These she could trust in her Heavenly Father's hands, remembering that, in the days of her widowhood, God mercifully sustained her and gladdened her heart, by permitting her to see four of her children profess their faith in Christ, and being planted in the likeness of his death, and walking in the fellowship of the church of which she herself was so bright an ornament. She had proved God's faithfulness and likewise the affection of her own children, and she was assured that, being deprived of both their parents, they would be more closely united, and

that whilst the elder ones had heads to plan or hands to labor, the younger ones would never want a home. She enjoyed much of the Saviour's presence, and while she complained but little, she seemed to lose sight of earth with all its cares, and to be living in the very atmosphere of heaven.

“Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord, for they rest from their labors, and their works do follow them.” May God bless and comfort the bereaved family.

Our beloved sister's death was improved to the living by the Rev. D. W. C. Dimock, who is ever ready to sympathize with those who are called to mourn, comforting God's children with the rich promises of the gospel, and leading the mind from earth to heaven; yet not forgetting to warn sinners to flee from the wrath to come.

Nova Scotia Politics.

The following Correspondence has been published during the past week. As it is of a public nature we think our readers should be made acquainted with it. We offer no comments upon either of the letters as we believe our readers will be fully able to appreciate their merits, and also to form their own opinions on the questions there raised.—Whether an extra Session of the Legislature should be called for the purpose named; and whether His Excellency the Earl of Mulgrave would be justified, under the circumstances, in calling such Session:—

No. 1.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—

We, the undersigned, members of the House of Assembly, having observed that your Excellency's present advisers claim that they have secured a majority to sustain them in the new Parliament, deem it our duty to undeceive your Excellency and to assure you that we have been returned expressly to oppose the present Administration; that we intend unitedly to do so, and shall avail ourselves of the first public opportunity afforded us to declare that they do not possess the confidence of the people of Nova Scotia.

The undersigned deem it their duty also to state, that they consider it but just to your Excellency, to the new House, and to the country at large, that the earliest opportunity should be afforded for testing the opinions of Parliament, in order that your Excellency may be surrounded by those who enjoy that measure of public confidence so indispensable to a wise administration of affairs.

(Signed.) Wm. Young, John Esson, Wm. Annand, Joseph Howe, W. Chambers, A. M. Cochran, A. G. Archibald, A. Campbell, Thos. F. Morrison, A. W. McLellan, R. P. Grant, Geo. McKenzie, A. C. McDonald, S. Campbell, W. O. Heffernan, Hugh Munro, William Ross, H. Blanchard, B. Wier, Hy. Mosley, Hy. Bailey, Lewis Smith, Thos. Coffin, John Locke, Robert Robertson, W. B. Webster, S. Chipman, J. L. Brown, W. Burgess.

Halifax, 30th June, 1859.

To His Excellency the Earl of Mulgrave.

No. 2.

Provincial Secretary's Office, Halifax, 21st July, 1859.

GENTLEMEN,—I have it in command from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to inform you that your memorial announcing to His Excellency your intention to oppose the present Government, and offering your views upon the proper period for assembling the Legislature, has received the careful consideration of His Excellency and the Executive Council; and I am further commanded to state that, while the Lieutenant Governor will at all times be ready to give due weight to the sentiments of gentlemen holding the influential position of the memorialists, His Excellency cannot, he conceives, accept advice on the subject of the memorial from any other than his Constitutional advisers without disregarding the Royal instructions, infringing upon the system of Responsible Government established in this Colony, and compromising the position of strict impartiality between political parties, which it is His Excellency's firm determination ever to preserve.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES TOPFER.

The Honorable William Young and the 28 other gentlemen, members elect of the House of Assembly, whose names are attached to a memorial dated 30th June, 1859.

No. 3.

Halifax, 26th July, 1859.

MY LORD,—I beg leave to inclose in duplicate a letter to the Right Honorable the Colonial Secretary, which Your Excellency will greatly oblige me by transmitting to London by the first steamer.

I have the honor to be,

My Lord,

Your most obedient servant,

Signed, Wm. Young.

His Excellency the Right Honorable the Earl of Mulgrave, &c., &c., &c.

No. 4.

Halifax, 25th July, 1859.

MY LORD DUKE:—When the British Colonies, which have established Responsible Government, determined to adopt that system in preference to the written constitutions of the United States, their choice was influenced by a sincere belief that if the modes of administration which obtain in the