

taint the air, and render it pestilential, promptly removed and spread out on the surface of the surrounding country, not only give it healthfulness, but clothe it with verdure, and endue it with inexhaustible fertility.—*Dr Southwood Smith's Evidence before the Health of Towns' Commission.*

Communications.

[For the Gleaner.]
CHILDHOOD.

Life is undoubtedly one of the most precious and valued of all the innumerable gifts, which the beneficent Creator has bestowed upon the human race. It is the prop upon which man's brightest earthly hopes and anticipations rest, and the rock upon which his most cheering prospects for time are built. You may strip him of his possessions—you may sever the social and domestic ties that entwine around him—you may separate him from all he holds near and dear to his soul, and to this, hard and trying tho' it be, he will submit; but threaten his life, and he will boldly and determinedly resist, and cling to it with the greatest tenacity—attempt to separate the connexion between soul and body, and you have touched a cord that vibrates resistance, and tells that he will not relinquish life without a severe and determined struggle—terminate his existence, and, so far as time is concerned, his brightest hopes and anticipations are blasted—a death blow has been struck at all his earthly prospects and enjoyments—and with the termination of his mortal career, his connexion with all earthly objects ceases for ever.

Life, composed as it is of a succession of parts, childhood, youth, manhood, and old age, furnishes to the reflecting mind an extensive field for contemplation. These successive stages have their peculiar and corresponding hopes and disappointments—joys and sorrows—pleasures and pains. Some have thought that childhood is the happiest period of our life. It has been emphatically styled the "poetry of existence." Poets have made it the theme of their song, described in rich, attractive, and glowing colours, and sung of it, as if it were a seraphic state of existence. 'Tis then, that the opening scenes of life pass before the eye, in all their lovely and attractive features. Every object wears the charm of novelty, and the gay visions of life burst in all their beauty, on the enraptured and expanding mind. The sportive gaiety of childhood—its confiding sweetness—its affectionate playfulness—its gush of tears—and its moments of returning joy—by which it is characterized, all combine to throw around it an indescribable charm. Uncorrupted by the evil influences of the world, untouched by the disappointments and the trials, which are the lot of more mature age—the heart is comparatively pure, buoyant, and happy. It has not yet experienced the vicissitudes, the cares and vexations, which depress the man of years. The desires and the feelings that characterize the votary of pleasure, of wealth, or of fame, have not yet taken possession of the soul. Forgetful of the past and careless of the future, childhood lives only for the present, and with a soul all life and a heart all happiness—with much to please and little to mar, it revels in the sunshine of its bright and extatic existence. Who that has attained the period of manhood or passed into the vale of years, when he beholds a group of children engaged in innocent play—giving expression to their gushing and unforbidden joy, in the ringing laugh and the clapping of hands, can forbear to cast his thoughts back to the period of his own childhood! The delightful scenes the sweet associations—and the enrapturing joys of his early years pass in panorama before the eye of his memory; and as he gazes upon their sportive gaiety and innocent delights, he mentally exclaims, I wish I were a child again! But if childhood has its pleasures it likewise has its pains—if it has its hopes, it also has its disappointments—if it has its joys it has its sorrows too. No sooner have we entered upon the journey of life, that we feel the prickling thorns, that are strewn along our path—than we discover that childhood is not such a felicitous state as some have described it to be. It has its gush of tears, its sobs that almost burst the young and tender heart. Parental correction—the restraints of the nursery, and the school-room—broken toys—disappointed desires—bleeding wounds—and the petty strifes and quarrels which often arise among children, frequently cast a cloud over the sunshine of this portion of our mortal existence. But these sorrows are momentary and soon forgotten; they make

no lasting impression on the mind. Tears no sooner fill the eye, than they are wiped away; the bosom is no sooner agitated, than it becomes calm; and petty strifes no sooner arise than they are forgotten in sweet and cordial amity. During the slumbers of the night, the sorrows of yesterday are drowned in the depths of oblivion, and each successive day opens to the mind a new channel of happiness and delight. S.

Chatham, July 5, 1847.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, JULY 6, 1847.

The Subscriber having been compelled to consume a large amount of time, and incur considerable expense, in his too often fruitless endeavours to collect his far-spread Outstanding Debts, hereby notifies all persons to whom he is not indebted, and with whom he has not a running account, that orders for advertising in the Gleaner, and for Printing, in future, must be accompanied with the CASH, otherwise they will not meet with attention.

JAMES A. PIERCE.

QUARANTINE AND EMIGRANT NEWS.

We collect from the Colonial and American papers the following summary:—

Capt. Hall, of the ship *Pallas* of Cork, died at Partridge Island, St. John, N. B. Quarantine, on Friday evening last, of Typhus fever.

Dr. Collins, one of the resident physicians on the Island was lying dangerously ill at the same place, of the same disease.

Austen York, master of the bark *Lenden*, from Galway, was convicted by B. L. Peters & Daniel Ansley, Esqrs, in St. John, N. B., upon a prosecution instituted against him by the acting Emigrant agent at that port, for a violation of the passenger act, in not having issued water and provisions to the passengers on board his ship, according to law. Mitigated penalty, under some palliating circumstances, only £20 sterling, and the costs of prosecution.

The Boston Times says:—It was stated a few days since, that the bark *Junius* was on shore on West Hampton Beach, Long Island, and that the second mate was drowned in trying to effect a landing from the ship to the shore. It appears that the captain endeavoured to make two ports, but was forbidden to enter, for fear that the passengers were in an unhealthy condition, with the snip fever or some other contagious disease. He spoke two pilots, who refused to come aboard, and that consequently he ran his vessel on the beach.

We copy the following paragraph from the Quebec Papers received by the last mail:—

"Under the Head 'Shipping Intelligence' in this morning's paper will be found further melancholy accounts respecting emigrant vessels bound to this port. In one case sickness has swept off more than a third of the unfortunate creatures on board; and in another nearly 400 human beings have been hurried into eternity by shipwreck. Death in various forms—by famine, by sickness, and by shipwreck,—is doing frightful execution among the hordes of poor emigrants that are flocking to our shores the present season. Within the past three weeks alone, we have received accounts of between 500 and 600 emigrants bound to this port having perished by shipwreck, to say nothing of the numbers who are being swept off by sickness after escaping the perils of the deep.—*Quebec, June 15.*

"On reference to our shipping intelligence it will be seen that four more passenger vessels had arrived there on Tuesday last with 1126 emigrants, the aggregate number of deaths in these four on their passage having been 58. It is said this morning that a vessel had subsequently arrived at that station on board which there had been 90 deaths.—*Chronicle, June 24.*

We learn from the Kingston *Chronicle and Gazette*, that the emigrants, on arriving there, are forwarded as soon as they are able to proceed—and over as wide a section of the Province as possible. About one half of the whole go to Toronto and Hamilton, and the remainder have been distributed between Coburg, Port Hope, Windsor, and St. Catharines. The *Earl Cathcart*, Propeller, took a number of indigent emigrants to ports on Lake

Erie, and at least 150 have been sent up the Bay of Quinte, and to the Townships in rear of Kingston.

The number already forwarded, amount to from 9 to 10 thousand. The deaths have not been great in proportion—not more than ten deaths in Hospital—and from the Sheds and Lodging Houses not more than 20 or 25 at the outside.—*Chronicle, June 25.*

The total number of sick emigrants admitted to the marine hospital, to the 20th instant, was 680; discharged; died between the 13th and 20th inst; 19 remaining, 523.

We were informed this morning that there were 140 deaths at Grosse Isle on Friday last. *Chronicle, June 28.*

INQUEST.—An inquest was held before M. Cranney, Esq., Coroner, at Point aux Car, on Monday the 28th ult., on view of the body of a man picked up on the shore, sewed up in canvass, and supposed to have been thrown overboard by one of the passenger ships now in port. Verdict found drowned.

And on Sunday morning last, before the same gentleman, an Inquest was held on view of the body of a man, apparently a sailor, who was picked up near Messrs Gilmour Rankin & Co's Mill. He had on when found, a pair of drawers, a lencer, and a pair of half boots, the letters G. C. marked on his right arm. Verdict as above.

THE SEASON.—The weather since the issue of our last number has been as propitious as the agriculturist could have desired, abounding in beautiful showers and warm sun. The only exception to an expression of general satisfaction with regard to the state of the crops which has reached us, has been with regard to red clover, which is said to be stunted.

POST OFFICE.—We copy the following notice respecting the Post Office Establishment in the North American Colonies, from the Newbrunswick of the 29th ult., and cordially unite in the sentiments therein expressed, and in a desire that something may be done to modify the exactions of that department, at least in so far as it taxes the diffusion of useful knowledge:—

"It gives us much satisfaction to observe that the Legislature of Canada intend to take an early action on the subject of the Post office, the Imperial government, as our readers are aware, have resolved to place the control of this department in the hands of the local Government. We have no doubt that this step will prove alike beneficial to the people as to the Post office in these colonies. It is admitted on all sides that the present system requires great amendment. The high rate of postage on letters is out of all proportion to the distance conveyed, while the tax on newspapers, from what quarter soever they may be sent, should be abolished. There cannot be the least distrust that a lower rate of postage would greatly increase the revenue of the department, as it has been satisfactorily proved that in every country in which a low rate of postage has been adopted, the receipts have been augmented.

"In the Canadian assembly on the 17th instant, in answer to a question by Mr Moffat, relative to the post office, Mr Cayley said that it was the intention of the government to introduce an act to authorise the appointment of commissioners to confer with commissioners to be appointed by the British North American colonies, to arrange a uniform postage system for these colonies."

We regret observing the comment made upon our assumed irregularity by the Eastern Chronicle, with which we exchange; and at the same time assure our friend the Chronicle, that the fault is not ours—we mail the Gleaner for the Chronicle as regularly as Wednesday morning comes.

We exchange with the Halifax *Post, Sun, and Novascotian*, as well as other Nova Scotia papers, but regret having to express our dissatisfaction with their recent barrenness of general local news of such a character as could possibly interest the general reader. We would, in a friendly way, just hint to our friends the Post, Sun, and Novascotian, that in their zeal for indulging in personalities and party politics, they lose sight of catering for the public palate.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—*Kai Ta Loipa*, and the list of articles intended for the Museum of the Mechanics' Institute, will be inserted in our next.

MIRAMICHI QUARANTINE.

The number of deaths during the week, in comparison with that of previous weeks, has decreased. George McAuley, mate of the *Looshtauk*, is among the number who died at the Lazaretto. His mother lives at *Spring Hill*, near Fredericton; he was married immediately before leaving Liverpool, and lodged in Park Lane. Captain Thane is reported as doing well, and the passengers, as having taken a decided turn for the better.

Number of deaths since our last report, eleven.

Miss Vondy, a sister of Dr. Vondy's, kindly and affectionately attended him during his death illness, and so strong was the sympathy felt for her, and so great the apprehension for her safety, in the absence of all personal comfort, as that an attempt was made to remove her from the Island, in which attempt, however, the parties failed, and she still remains on the Island, subject to the Doctor's discharge. We have received a lengthy article condemnatory of the attempt made to remove Miss Vondy, but, as a public journalist, until the motives of action, and other circumstances connected with the whole transaction of Dr. Vondy's personal comfort, while on the Island, his illness and death, are explained to our satisfaction, we think the "less said the soonest mended."

SCRAPS OF NEWS.

The Woodstock Telegraph states that two young lads named Peter Fulkins, aged 16 years, and Benjamin Brewer, aged 12 years, were drowned at that place on Sunday, 2nd June while paddling on the river with two others.

The Albion, (a new paper published at St. John) states that Mr Kellogg, who has been lecturing on Total Abstinence in this and the adjoining Province for some time past, has induced no less than 1500 persons to sign the pledge in this province alone. We copy the following gratifying paragraph from the same paper:—

"The recent favourable accounts from Europe, of the prospect of an abundant harvest, together with the marked symptoms of improvement in the manufacturing districts, and more easy state of the money market lead to the conviction that the general business of this Province will assume a more animated character as the autumn approaches. The large amount of shipping belonging to New Brunswick, which has hitherto been engrossed in carrying flour and other provisions to the ports of Great Britain, will again return to the land of their origin, and the demand for the staple exports of the country, it is expected, will be the means of giving them ample employment. We sincerely hope that our brightest anticipations may be more than realized, and money, 'that necessary evil,' may again be as easy as the gouty shoe of the most sensitive valetudinarian.

There are now and have been constantly, since the first week of the opening of the Rochester canal not far from 400,000 bbls of flour, en-route between Buffalo and New York.

An extensive mill, owned by Augustus Hatt, on the Yamaska river, Canada, was destroyed by fire lately. Insured for £5000.

The American papers contain most gratifying accounts of the crops.

During the past week the Mayor of St. John fined four persons for selling unwholesome meat, one for keeping a disorderly house, one for driving a cart on a side walk, and another for driving a cart without a license.

The Fredericton Reporter says that St. Anne's Chapel, in that city has received the accession of a chime of bells, three in number, of a superior tone, and in good keeping with the building which they occupy.

A few days since a man went on board the steamer *Madawaska*, at the little Falls, Madawaska, and having no money to pay his passage, the captain gave him a passage free, and during the day he abstracted £30 from the Captain's desk. He was pursued to the mouth of the Aroostock, and when captured, had about £22, having purchased a suit of clothes with the balance, and treating every person he met.

H. M. ship *Electra*, Capt. Bouverie, left P. E. Island of the 12th June for Bay de Chaleur, where she is to protect the fisheries for this season.

The Bishop of Exeter, has sentenced the Rev. W. G. P. Smith, of Torquay,