

this office, it gradually absorbs carbonic acid from the atmosphere, reverts to the state of neutral carbonate of lime, and then sustains the office of absorbing the water which falls in showers or is retained in the air, thus preserving, through the power of capillary attraction, a reservoir of nutriment for the plant it supports. The offal of the stable and cow-house is of the first importance as manure, because it returns to the soil the very elements which were deduced from it by the growth of corn and hay, and that too in a state fitted to enter immediately into the composition of similar crops. There are other substances which form excellent manures from the identity of their elements with those of the common productions of our soil; we can, however, do no more at present than notice the fact. It is to the analytic acumen and indefatigable research of Liebig that we are chiefly indebted for the elucidation of this beautiful and striking relationship amongst the components of animal and vegetable existence, and for the establishment of an intimate connexion between high science and simple labour. We have a sufficient respect for the ornate and beautiful, and willingly acknowledge even the abstract importance to the mind of syllogistic argumentation, but still we are utilitarian enough to believe that the application of the abstruse sciences to purposes of common utility, with which they may be compatible, would materially add to man's happiness and elevation, morally, and religiously, and would add materially to the dignity of knowledge.

We have thus shortly shown the intimate relationship which exists amongst the air, earth, and water, amongst the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms, and the subserviency and necessity of each to the existence of the other; and we need hardly farther apprise the youthful and enquiring of the utility and pleasure derivable from the study of the interesting and valuable affinities which the science of chemistry unfolds.

Colonial News.

New Brunswick.

Saint John Temperance Telegraph.

Temperance movements of the past week.
—Mr. Gough visited Galetown on Monday, where he lectured to a large and respectable audience in the Court House, who seemed to listen with the greatest attention, and on Tuesday evening he lectured to a respectable audience in Canning; and on both occasions upwards of fifty signed the pledge.

Mr. G. returned to the city on Tuesday evening and resumed his arduous and philanthropic labours at the Institute on the same evening. The house was filled to overflowing at an early hour, and "expectation stood on tiptoe" to welcome our friend on his return. We need say nothing respecting the lecture—Mr. Gough was the lecturer, that's sufficient. Seventy persons, among whom were a large number of ladies, and not a few of our influential citizens.—We noticed also with a feeling of delight several "desperate cases" around the platform—bruisers—soakers—drunkards, May heaven bless their manly efforts, and restore them to health and prosperity.

On Friday evening Mr. G. lectured for the benefit of the young Men's Total Abstinence Society; and we hope, indeed we fully believe, that good seed was sown on that evening which shall spring up in this community, and bring forth fruit abundantly. Our young men will shortly make a general business of it—scarcely one will be found to stand aloof from the cause. On Sunday Mr. Gough lectured at Hampton.

Saint John Observer, Sept. 28.

The Medical Board (comprising Dr. William Livingstone, and Dr. G. P. Peters,) recently appointed by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, to visit, examine into, and report upon the condition of the sick and diseased emigrants at Patridge Island, it appears have attended to that duty, and have drawn up a report which we find in the *Liberator* of Saturday last. The report speaks of the insufficiency of the accommodations and arrangements for the comfort of the numerous emigrants landed at the quarantine station, the want of sufficient medical attendance, and hospital deficiencies, (the number of emigrants on the island at the time of the inspection being 300, of whom 600 were sick!) and the consequent neglect which some must experience; the want of system in distributing the provisions, scarcity of water, &c. The Board recommend that more medical

men should be employed, that additional buildings be immediately erected for the accommodation of the sick, that a suitable cook house be established, and a steward appointed to superintend the distribution of food, and a burial ground be set apart, under proper management, that wells be sunk on the island, and that a suitable building be erected for the medical attendant, with a department in it for a Dispensary, &c.—We make the following extracts from the Report, not having room for the whole document:—

"We attribute the prevalence of Emigrant fever in this place to the co-operating influences of poverty and its concomitants upon the system of the emigrants prior to embarkation—to impurities of atmosphere and the crowded holds of vessels—to neglect of personal cleanliness, to impure water, and want of medical attendance and supervision during the passage; and lastly and principally, to exposure, impurities, want from insufficient attention, and Hospital deficiencies at the Quarantine station at Patridge Island, and to the deficient supply of wholesome water. In reference to the exposure, we may observe that many of the emigrants have slept all night in the open air upon the damp ground, with no other covering than their wearing apparel. We found patients suffering under fever and dysentery in this destitute and neglected condition. The sudden transition from the heated hold of a vessel to the cold night air and wet ground has been followed in many instances by the outbreak of fever and dysenteric disease. —In reference to the impurities upon the Island, we may state in the first place atmospheric impurity arising from the filthy condition of the tents, the filthy habits of the people, and the exhalations from the burying ground, where upwards of forty bodies are deposited in one hole, without a sufficient covering of earth, and many others are buried with only a few inches of earth over the bodies, which are not protected by a coffin.

"We feel ourselves called upon to state that in many instances the sick have suffered from the want of food and water, and that in some cases we believe the patient has died in consequence of the want. We may here remark that Dr. W. S. Harding, the physician upon the Island, confirms this assertion. We are informed by Dr. Harding that this particular suffering of the emigrant is attributed to the difficulty of procuring nurses. We found many of the emigrants suffering in their tents for want of a sufficient supply of straw for bedding; some were sleeping on the ground, exposed to cold and wet after every rain; and others were lying upon spruce boughs.

"In reference to the Hospital deficiencies, we may observe that these include not only the very objectional condition and location of the buildings, but almost entire want of hospital conveniences, such as headsteads, close-stools, spit-pans, bed-pans, and proper bedding. The emigrants, generally speaking, sleep on the floor, both sexes crowded in the same room—the rooms are filled with boxes and furniture of the emigrants, which increase the impurity of the apartments. This nuisance, we are informed by Dr. Harding, arises from the want of a suitable building upon the island, as a store-house for such articles.

"One of the buildings erected for a Hospital is unfinished, as respects outside covering on the walls; the patients sleep upon the floor, with their heads exposed to the cold currents of wind passing through the open and wide seams between the boards. The impurities of the rooms, especially in the buildings contiguous to the burying ground, is greatly increased particularly in Southernly weather, by the cadaverous exhalations. Some of the patients have been sixteen weeks upon the Island, suffering under several relapses of fever, which are attributed to the foregoing causes. The buildings erected for hospitals are objectionably narrow, and consequently the space between the patients as a gangway in the centre of the rooms is not sufficiently wide.

"In answer to the enquiry respecting 'the infectious nature' of emigrant fever, we reply—we believe that the disease is contagious, and that it is readily contracted by emigrants in their peculiar condition, and exposed to the unwholesome atmosphere formed around the beds of fever patients crowded together in badly ventilated rooms, in which the disease soon develops its typhoid and typhus characters. Experience has shewn that physicians and clergymen in other places, and in this Province, who have been exposed to the contagion in such impure atmospheres, have contracted the disease. The tendency of the disease to degenerate into typhus, and consequently its

contagious character would be lessened, and in many instances entirely prevented by an improved system of hospital management comprehending among other things, due attention to cleanliness, diet, and ventilation.

"We noticed on the Island the sale of impure meats and unripe fruits, to which we must attribute a large portion of the diarrheal and dysenteric affections, which have been very fatal among children and adults."

The convention of colonial delegates now assembled at Montreal, to confer with the Governor General will, it is stated, have a variety of important subjects submitted to their consideration, including intercolonial commerce, and the equalization of duties, a general system of internal postage, and the means most effectual to be pursued for the commencement and completion of great lines of railway from the provinces bounding the Atlantic Ocean, to the interior of the Canadas.

Canada.

Quebec Gazette, September 17.

We are glad to see that the communication by telegraph and railway to Halifax is now approved of by nearly all the newspapers in Upper Canada, Montreal and the Eastern provinces. INDEPENDANCE of our neighbors, is now we believe, the sincere desire of all parts of the British North American provinces; but we ought to profit by their example and set to work.

Kingston Herald, Sept. 8.

We regret that there have been so many deaths among our friends and fellow-townpeople for some time back. The Typhus fever has been almost invariably the cause of these deaths.—This disease is almost as fearful in its consequences as the cholera. We understand from good authority, that, for the last few days, there have been as many deaths from Typhus, among the inhabitants, as there have been among the emigrants. During the month of August, the number of deaths in the Hospitals, and sheds, has amounted to two hundred and sixty nine. At the end of the month there were 684 on the list of sick, since when, one hundred have been discharged as convalescent.

The number of emigrants to Canada, who have died in three months, on ship board, or after they had landed, is seven thousand one hundred and forty!—Awful.

Quebec Gazette, September 20.

We have seen a sample of Coal, brought from St. Paul's Bay, which seems to be of a quality superior to the best English Coal. A sample may be seen at this office. The mine is stated to be extensive, and is situated only a short distance from the *Riviere du Gouffre* and from the navigable waters of St. Paul's Bay. It is to be hoped that it will be explored by some persons well acquainted with the mineral in question.

Novascotia.

Halifax Sun, September 29.

Robberies.—Two Robberies were committed last week on board of Schooners in the Harbour,—one the stealing of a Gold Watch and Chain, the other a box containing £110. The money, also the watch chain were recovered and suspected parties committed.

The Journal de Quebec says that Dr. Boudreau, of Baie St. Paul, has made two rich discoveries—one an Iron Mine at a short distance from the shores of the Bay, and on the banks of the River Gouffre, navigable by Schooners to within a third of a league of the spot.—The other is of a Coal Mine, still more advantageously situated on the banks of the same river, and only two miles from the shores of the Bay. The Journal invites Mr. Logan the Geologist, to go down to Baie St. Paul, and examine the nature of the soil in that neighbourhood.

Halifax Nova Scotian, September 29.

Wreck and Suffering.—We learn from Memoranda on Keefer's Slate, that a letter has been received in town, stating that on the 22nd inst. an emigrant vessel, from Ireland, was wrecked upon the coast of Cape Breton. There was a large number of passengers on board, many of whom are afflicted with small Pox. The emigrants have been sent to Arichat. 'Several deaths,' says the letter, 'are occurring daily.' The name of the vessel is not mentioned.

It is said that nearly two millions barrels of wheat flour have been received at New York since the opening of navigation this season.

YESTERDAY'S MAIL.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

The Hibernia arrived at Halifax with the second September mail, at 12 o'clock on the night of Friday last, and it was received here at 8 o'clock last evening. The delay was occasioned by the state of the roads, which are very heavy from the late rains.

The news thus obtained is very unsatisfactory—trade was dull, money scarce, and failures occurring daily, many of them houses of long standing and of great respectability.

We give below numerous extracts, which embrace all the news of consequence; and being anxious to put our subscribers in possession of as much of the intelligence as possible, we have delayed the publication of our journal a few hours later than usual.

From Willmer & Smith's European Times, September 4 to 19.

MORE EXTENSIVE FAILURES AND GREAT COMMERCIAL EMBARRASMENTS.

Never since the commencement of this paper, now nearly five years since, has it fallen to our lot to detail to our Transatlantic readers so alarming and disastrous a series of mercantile misfortunes as are contained in our present sheet. We refer our readers to another column for a further list of failures which have occurred since our last. It will be seen that they are not confined exclusively to the corn trade, but embrace names which for nearly a century have ranked amongst the highest in this great commercial country. The firms of Thomas Osborne & Co., and Thomas Booker, Sons, & Co., in the London corn market, having been long known for their high respectability and extensive dealings, and their failure caused considerable alarm; but when the houses of D. & A. Denny & Co., and Gemmell Brothers of Glasgow, were known to have suspended payment, a general feeling of apprehension beyond the limits of the corn trade spread far and wide. It is thought on this side that the losses of Messrs. Denny will be felt severely at New York and at New Orleans. The London discount houses are great sufferers. The stoppage of Messrs. Gemmell Brothers was caused by the non-arrival of the last China mail, and its effects have already widely extended, as the connections of the house were considerable with Canton, Lima, and Valparaiso. The failure of A. Roux, in Paris, also connected with the Pacific trade, created a great sensation, the liabilities being between £200,000 and £300,000. The failures at Venice, Genoa, and in Paris increased the general gloom. It may, therefore, be readily imagined what consternation was created in London on the 11th inst. when it transpired that Messrs. A. A. Gower Nephews & Co., of Coleman street, had stopped payment. The extensive banking and commercial relations of this house with Italy, Spain, France, South America, India, and the United States, cannot fail to produce corresponding mischievous results. The house has been established nearly a century, and the founder died at an advanced age, about twenty years ago, worth about £400,000. His nephews have since carried on the business. Mr. Abel Lewis Gower, the present chief, has been a Director of the Bank of England for many years, and has also taken an active part in the Company of Royal Copper Miners, but his connection with this latter body is said to have already ceased. The liabilities of the house upon acceptances alone are said to amount to £800,000, and their other engagements, we should think, cannot fail to bring the total amount to nearly a million sterling. The house of Alison, Cumberledge, & Co., of London and Valparaiso, of which firm one of the Gower family is a partner, was immediately compelled to stop payment. It would be improper at this moment to advert upon any act of the partners in Messrs. Gower's firm which may have accelerated its ruin, but it is plainly stated that losses on railway shares have contributed to their insolvency, whilst the failure of Gemmell Brothers, of Glasgow, and the turn which political affairs have taken in Spain, with which country Messrs. Gowers were deeply compromised, have, no doubt, been the immediate causes of the catastrophe. There have been scarcely any loans raised in England on behalf of the party of Dom Miguel, of Portugal, or of Don Carlos, of Spain, but that Messrs. Gowers have been actively concerned in them. Indeed, proceedings in Chancery respecting large funds raised for Don Miguel have been frequently before the public, and are still undisposed of.

The failure of another bank director so recently after the disqualification of Mr. Robinson, has revived angry animadversions against the establishment of the Bank of England. Mr. A. L. Gower being at present out of office by rotation, no change of officers will be rendered necessary. The public had scarcely recovered from these shocks, when it further transpired that Messrs. Sanderson & Co., bill-brokers, which house stood second in the metropolis in their branch of business, had suspended payment. They were known to be heavy sufferers by Lesley Alexander & Co., and Gower Nephews, and a severe run having been made upon them for money of their depositors held at call, they were compelled to make a stoppage. It is quite impossible to estimate the extent of their liabilities, as the amount of their endorsements on paper in