

clay pipes, and swallowing daily their five bottles of claret; they also took to meddling in science, literature, and political economy.

Forty years ago, as Gibbon Wakefield wrote in 1837, instruction was confined to a portion of the highest class. The middle class indeed could read and write, but their reading did not extend beyond divinity, novels, the racing calendar, Moore's prophetic almanack; and, now and then, a newspaper adapted to their ignorance. As for any interchange of ideas by means of writing and printing, they never thought of such a thing; or rather they would have thought it presumptuous, if not unnatural in them, to form ideas upon subjects of general interest. Except when one of their narrow superstitions were attacked, as for example, their fear of popish supremacy, they left all public questions to the nobility, clergy, and gentry, whom alone they thought capable of understanding such matters. They stared and wondered when a great man passed, and believed that the whole public duty of man consisted in honouring the king and loving the rest of the royal family. The great French revolution entirely changed their character. When they saw that men of their own class, in a neighboring country, had undertaken to govern, their slothful and slavish propensities gave way to political excitement. The very horrors which succeeded the French revolution had an excellent effect upon them; setting them to think, read, and even write on public questions, and forcing them, above all, to look into the conditions of their inferiors. Every public question was now discussed by them, and for them, too, by their superiors, who wanted their assistance. Books, magazines, pamphlets, and newspapers, came to be reckoned necessities of life; and the quality of these improved with the greater demand for them. At length, towards the close of the war, when a new generation had grown up, the middle classes were better instructed than the highest class, and the charm of aristocracy was gone.

Within the last fifteen years the love of instruction has descended among the people. With them it is now a passion. It cheers the poorest. It bears hope to the least sanguine. It gives courage to the most despairing. The people feel that it is by knowledge they must right themselves; that to them, knowledge is more truly power than to any other class. If heretofore they have been despised, it is that they were despicable, if heretofore they have been oppressed, it is that they were ignorant. They feel dimly enough, but strongly, that insurrections of the people have hitherto failed, because the people were not fit to be their own masters; so that after a riot, as *La Jaquezie*, or that headed by Wat Tyler, they have always been driven back again to servitude by their masters; a handful of knights could quell a rebellion. In what consisted this inferiority of the people? In their ignorance. They had physical force, why did they not successfully use it? Because it was physical force—because it was brute strength and energy, striving in vain against an instructed few. The arm was strong but it wanted a mind to direct it; the arrow was without its feather.

#### DR. CHALMERS.

A gloom was spread over all ranks and parties in the city on Monday morning by the announcement of the sudden death of Dr. Chalmers, perhaps the greatest, certainly the best-loved, Scotsman of the present generation. Dr. Chalmers, after an absence of some weeks in England, during which he had given evidence before the Sites Committee of the House of Commons, returned to his house at Morningside on Friday evening. He was then apparently in his usual health, and continued so throughout Saturday and up to his going to bed on Sunday evening, which he did at an early hour. The rest we could not tell better than in the words of our contemporary the *Witness*:

"Next morning, professor Macdougall, who expected to have received a packet of papers from the doctor, sent, at about 20 minutes before eight, to inquire whether the papers had been left out. The housekeeper knocked at the door of the doctor's bed room, but receiving no answer, and concluding that the doctor was asleep, sent to the professor a reply, intimating that the papers should be sent as soon as the doctor should awake. Half an hour later another party called, when the housekeeper knocked as before, but still received no answer. This, taken in connection with the fact that the doctor had not rung his bell at six o'clock for his cup of coffee, as was his wont, awakened the fears of the domestics, who agreed to enter the chamber, and ascertain if all were well with their revered master! On entering, they were horror-struck on discovering that the doctor, partly erect, partly reeling on his pillow, had fallen into the deep sleep of death. Not venturing themselves to communicate the mournful intelligence to the family, they went instantly to the residence of Professor Macdougall, immediately adjoining, and communicated to him the melancholy tidings. Stunned by the intelligence, the professor hastened to the doctor's residence, and entering his apartment, and drawing aside the bed-curtains, saw, alas! the lifeless form of one whom he had so deeply revered, and with whom he had conversed but the day before. The doctor, it appeared, had been sitting erect when overtaken by the stroke of death, and he still retained in part that position. The massy head gently reclined on the pillow. The arms were folded peacefully on the breast. There was a slight air of oppression and heaviness on the brow, but not a wrinkle, not a trace of sorrow or pain,

disturbed its smoothness. The countenance wore an attitude of deep repose. Professor Macdougall grasped the hand. It was cold as marble. Life had been absent for several hours; and the air of majesty on the countenance, greater than he had ever perceived on the living face, seemed to say, 'I am gone up!'

Dr. Chalmers had intended to give in the report of the College Committee to the Free Assembly next day, and had laid papers and writing materials on his bed in order to enable him to make preparations for that duty whenever he should awake. It is needless to say that the grief consequent on the announcement of his departure, though everywhere deep and sincere, was nowhere more profound than in the Assembly of the Church to which the splendour of his name gave lustre and strength.

The principal events in the career of Dr. Chalmers are too well known to all Scotchmen to reader any minute narrative of them desirable or interesting. He was born about 1777, in Austruther, in Fife, of which place, we believe, his father was schoolmaster. When about twenty-five years of age, he acted as assistant in a parish in Roxburghshire, whence he went to be parish minister of Kilmany in Fife, where his genius first began to show itself, or at least to become known. He next removed to a parish in Glasgow; then to the Chair of Moral Philosophy in St. Andrew's; and last to the Divinity Chair in Edinburgh University, which office he held till the disruption in 1843. Since then, he has acted as senior Professor of Divinity in the Free Church College. After the first year following the Disruption, though occasionally preaching, he took little share in public business, feeling unequal to the excitement inseparable from his fervid style of oratory, and of having to address the over-crowded assemblies which the faintest rumour of his appearance never failed to collect.

Of his character, of even of his genius, we shall not venture to attempt an estimate before his grave has closed, although in the case of few men who have borne so active a part in life, could such a task be performed at such a time with less risk of seeming indecorous or ungracious. In the course of a life of activity and controversy, he often spoke rashly and sometimes bitterly; but such was his genial and sincere nature, that even those who had most cause to complain of him never ascribed his offences to anything more than too warm a temperament and too fervid an utterance, and never ceased to respect and even to love him. THOMAS CHALMERS was a man whom Scotchmen of all opinions, and of many coming generations, will regard with pride and reverence, as one of their country's great estimates.

## Colonial News.

### Canada.

**From the Guelph Herald.**  
**Execution of Charles Coghen.**—On Thursday morning this unfortunate young man underwent the awful sentence of the law, for the murder of Mr. Richard Oliver, on the 22nd of March last. As is always the case on such occasions, at an early hour in the morning, large numbers of people of both sexes, were seen pouring into town from every direction, and at a quarter past ten o'clock, the street opposite the place of execution on the north east side of the Court house, was completely thronged. Just at this moment Coghen made his appearance on the scaffold accompanied by the Sheriff, Roman Catholic Priest, and the hangman. A loud murmur of indignation resounded through the crowd. The hangman affixed the fatal rope round the neck of the unfortunate culprit, who was dressed in a white gown and cap; having made a low bow to the crowd, he stepped boldly forward, and addressed the spectators in a rather desultory speech of considerable length, exculpating himself from the charge of wilful murder, and justifying the act for which he was about to suffer, by the circumstances attending it. He was interrupted several times by shouts from the crowd of, "speak out Charley, my boy, tell the whole story," and such like. He called upon all men young and old to take warning by the example which they were about to witness, and begged that they would pray for his soul, and that God would have mercy upon his miserable condition, and forgive him for the awful crime which he was now about to expiate. During the whole period he exhibited the most reckless indifference to his fate, and loudly inveighed against several parties connected in his trial and conviction.

### Novascotia.

**Halifax Times, July 13.**  
**Deputation of the Church of Scotland.**—We learn that the deputation is receiving at Pictou and its neighborhood a "Church of Scotland" welcome. The people are rejoiced at the visit of the talented and pious men who compose it, who reflect much credit on the church which sent them.

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was dispensed on Sabbath, the 4th instant, at Pictou, by the Rev. Gentlemen of the deputation, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Martin, from this city, the Rev. John McLennan from Prince Edward's Island, and the Rev. Mr. McGilvray of McLennan's mount, to large and attentive audiences—in the open air as well as in the church in the town of Pictou.

The Rev. Mr. Fowler visited Wallace, preached there on Thursday (forenoon) last,

and in the afternoon at the Gulph shore, in the evening he returned to Wallace and baptized several children; and on Friday baptized a number of children near Wallace, and reached Pictou on Friday evening. He, with his friend, Mr. McLatosh, went to dispense the Lord's Supper at New Glasgow, last Sunday. The Rev. Mr. Stevenson had proceeded to Cape Breton, and it is cheering to observe the cordial welcome with which they are received every where they visit. We have no doubt that the visit of this deputation will evidently be of much benefit to the Colonies.

**New Manure.**—Mr. George Duncan, of Truro, has brought to this city a quantity of Anhydrous Gypsum, the qualities of which have before been made public through the medium of this paper; it is found to be an excellent manure, and we conceive we are doing a benefit to the agricultural population, by again calling attention to the subject. The following notice of the good effects of the Anhydrous Gypsum, when applied to a turnip crop, has been communicated to Mr. Duncan, by W. Clark, Esq., of Belmont, Peninsula of Halifax, with his permission to make it public:

**Information for Farmers.**—Two experiments were tried on the same day—one, by sowing the Swedish and Aberdeen turnip, using as a manure some of Mr. G. Duncan's anhydrous gypsum—and the other by sowing a part of the same seed on lands adjoining, and using stable manure. The result was as follows: where the anhydrous gypsum was used, the plants were up two days earlier, and are in perfect health; the others, after coming up were all eat off by the fly. The introduction of this new manure for agricultural purposes should not be overlooked, as it evidently forces vegetation, and protects it from being destroyed by insects.

**Physic for the Million.**—One of our druggists has recently introduced a new feature in medical science, which has strong claims to be considered an improvement. This is a physic Cart, which perambulates the town daily, and from which the ailing can be supplied with remedies for all disorders. It is a novelty in Halifax, and will be found an accommodation.

**Halifax Morning Post, July 15.**  
**Latest From the West Indies.**—By the arrival of the Lady Ogle, we have received dates from Bermuda of the 24th ult., and from Barbadoes of the 7th ult.

We have also received intelligence two days later from Bermuda, via the United States. The Royal Mail steamer Medway, arrived at Bermuda, from St. Thomas on the 23d ult., with over 100 passengers, for England. She left early the next morning.

In Jamaica it is estimated that the sugar crop will yield 100,000 hogheads of sugar which one of the local papers says, far exceeds any yield in the "Palmy days of slavery."

## Editor's Department.

### MIRAMICHI.

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, JULY 20, 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 EMIGRATION NEWS.

Passenger vessels continue to arrive in great numbers at Grosse Isle, Quebec. The following vessels arrived at the Quarantine Station on the 2nd, 5th, and 6th inst, viz:—Brig Rodin, from Cork, 89 passengers, 2 deaths, 3 sick; barque Yorkshire Lass, from Killala, 241 passengers, 5 deaths, 12 sick including mate and carpenter; barque Claasman, Greenock, 3 sick, no deaths; barque City of Derry, London, 295 passengers, 7 deaths, no sick. They are German passengers shipped in London where they were brought from Hamburg; barque Aberfoyle, from Waterford, 320 passengers, 7 deaths, no sick; barque James Moran, Liverpool, 341 passengers, 23 died; brig Free Briton, Cork, 185 passengers, 6 deaths; barque Bolton, Dublin, 208 passengers, 2 deaths; ship Tamarac, Liverpool, 507 passengers, 26 deaths; brig Lively, Cork, 189 passengers, 21 deaths, Captain, Mate, and 42 (?) of the crew sick; ship Vanilia, Limerick, 380 passengers, 13 deaths, Captain very ill; ship Wakefield, Cork, 381 passengers, 36 deaths; barque Huron, Belfast, 325 passengers, 9 deaths; barque Royal Albert, London, 175 passengers, German and Dutch, all well; brig Unicorn, London,

derry, 178 passengers, 5 deaths, no sick; ship Goliah, Liverpool, 603 passengers, 46 deaths, many sick; has two medical men on board. The Goliah reports, having spoken the Avon, from Cork, at which time she had lost 70 of her passengers, others very sick.

The Quebec papers state that the Rev. Mr. Ferlan, Nilligan, and Payment, proceeded to the Quarantine Station last week. The Rev. Mr. Chaderton, one of the Protestant Clergymen, is down with fever. The number of deaths on Grosse Isle for the week ending 4th inst., was 144; 331 discharged; 1817 in hospital; 42 bodies were brought ashore and buried on the Island during the same period. The Rev. Mr. Monahan, parish priest of St. Gervais, died of fever on the 7th inst. The Quebec Journal mentions the death of two other Roman Catholic Priests, at Montreal,—the Rev. Mr. Morgan, and the Rev. L. Richard, of Saint Sulpice. Seven or eight others are down with the fever, and the Superior of the Montreal Seminary is said to have contracted the disease. Giroux, the porter of the Seminary, who caught the fever at Grosse Isle, is also dead, as also is Capt. Freniere, of the steamer Canada.

From the following statement in the Montreal Pilot, it would appear that a greater amount of sickness prevails in that City than in Quebec:—

"There are at the present moment 48 Nuns sick from exposure, fatigue, and attacks of fever. All the Grey Nuns in attendance, 2 of the Sisters of Charity, 5 Physicians and 8 Students, now lie sick; to which gloomy and sickening record we must add the number of 1,586 persons, of all ages and sexes, lingering on beds of wretchedness and corruption, in many cases without an attendant to afford a drop of water, or even attend to those decent formalities which the sad solemnities of death require. The intelligence further adds, that the living and the dead were mingled in groups together, and presented a spectacle where Death reigned in his most terrible inflictions, and where oppressed humanity had assembled to pay him tribute."

The following paragraph, which we copy from the Quebec Mercury, will show that the Protestant clergy have not been remiss in attending to the spiritual wants of the unhappy Emigrants:—

The Rev. G. Mackie, official of the diocese, returned to this city yesterday, after passing a week at the Quarantine Station, to share the labours of the Rev. E. G. Sutton, at this moment the only stationary Chaplain on the Island, in attending to the Protestant sick, and performing the other duties required. Mr. Mackie was immediately preceded in this task by the Rev. J. Torrance, missionary of the Church of England at Point Levy, who spent the same space of time at the station; and the Rev. R. Lonsdale, minister of St. Paul's Chapel, Quebec, went down yesterday to take his turn of this voluntary assistance rendered to the clergyman resident for the season upon the spot. The Rev. C. Forrest, Chaplain of the station, is still at Three Rivers, under medical advice, having left the island to recruit his health, which had suffered from the severities of duty, a fortnight ago.

The extent of the demand for clerical labour at the Island has sensibly diminished, in consequence both of the mitigated demand of the visitation, and of the improvements effected in the accommodation and general arrangements for the sick.

The St. John Observer of Tuesday last, contains the following list of passenger vessels, which had arrived at that port the week previous:—Ship Ambassadors, from Liverpool, with 514 passengers—sixteen children and three adults died on the passage; ship Obieftain, from Galway, 344 embarked—13 deaths on the passage; brig Bache McEvers, from Cork, 166 passengers—eleven deaths, and two cases of small pox; schr Sally, from Cork, 96 passengers—seven deaths; brig Abena, from Cork, 73 passengers—one death; brig Seraph from Cork, via Boston, 120 passengers embarked—3 deaths, and 45 sick.

FREDERICTON, PARTY BROS.—We perceive, by the Head Quarters of the 14th inst., that on the preceding Monday there was a good deal of excitement in Fredericton, and some rioting. It appears that, notwithstanding the exertions of the Magistrates and other influential