

## Communications.

Mr Editor,—As, no doubt, you, as a public journalist, will notice the arrival of the passenger ships at present in the port of Miramichi, and the state in which they arrived, and continue; and the exertions that have been made by 'the powers that be,' in order to provide for, and extend the necessary relief to the starving, famishing, dying sufferers; I think it advisable to remind you of introducing into your notice of the matter, as it stands, but in your own way and mode, the facts, that it was only on Thursday evening last that the master of the ship bound to Quebec, came up to Chatham to give notice of the state in which his ship was then lying within the harbour's mouth,—that of upwards of three hundred passengers which he took on board at Liverpool, he had buried upwards of one hundred—that he had buried three on that morning—that he was wanting fresh provisions—a medical man, and medicine—that the town of Chatham was searched, and several loaves of bread, as well as about two gallons of wine, and some milk were furnished—that he was given to understand that he would not be visited by a medical man, until he brought his ship up to the Quarantine ground, being from where she lay, something like twenty-five miles—that he, accordingly, with the assistance of Mr Cunard's steam boat did bring his ship up abreast of Saint Andrew's church, above Middle Island, where she has been lying since Friday evening—that on Saturday last the ship was visited by a medical man, who went as far as the gunwale, from the view obtained by him from which position, he was enabled to make his report—that in the brief time of from Thursday evening to Saturday evening three special Sessions of the Magistrates were holden, relative to the affair, involving the loss of rest of some of the Magistrates, both body and mind, on one or two occasions up to a late—a very late hour, at night—that as early as Sunday about noon several carpenters were set to work on Middle Island to erect sheds, and otherwise to provide for the reception of the dying passengers—that so great was the anxiety felt to make such provision, as that boards were floated from a schooner lying abreast of the Island to the Island for that purpose—that during Saturday last twenty bodies were buried from the said ship, on Middle Island—that five died last night—and that owing to the extreme urgency of the case, the magistrates, by the use of efforts almost super-human, succeeded in the incredible short space of from Thursday evening to this Monday morning, in so far, providing for the reception and accommodation of the remaining part of the passengers and crew, as to have announced to the amazed people in Chatham the intention of landing the said passengers and crew, as well as the passengers of the other ship, in the course of this day. How far they may succeed in this, their labour of love and humanity, you perhaps will be enabled to state to your readers in the course of to-morrow afternoon.

Now, Sir, all this effort and exertion on the part of those whose business and duty it is to attend to them, should not be suffered to pass unnoticed by a grateful and philanthropic people. Much forethought has been involved in the matter. We are in fact a great people here, and it is right that it should be known.

A LOOKER ON.  
Chatham, Monday, 7th June.

## Editor's Department.

## MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 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.

EUROPEAN NEWS.—The Royal Mail steamer Hibernia, in a passage of 11 days, arrived at Halifax at noon on Tuesday last. She had 99 passengers, among whom was the Countess of Elgin.

The only cheering news from the mother country relates to the crops, which are reported as looking extremely well, with a promise of an abundant harvest. Trade continues considerably depressed, and money facilities extremely difficult to be obtained; but it would appear at the latest advices that some improvement had taken place. Mr O'Connell arrived at Genoa on the 6th May, and his health, it is reported, had considerably improved.

The following is an extract from Duncan & Ewing's Circular, regarding the state of the Timber Trade at Liverpool:

"In our last printed circulars we made some observations on the embarrassments under which the trading interests were then suffering, occasioned by the Directors of the Bank

of England having found it necessary to contract their accustomed amount of discounts, and by other capitalists following their example in becoming more stringent than usual in their accommodation to the public. The apprehension which thereby at first existed has greatly abated. Discounts are granted more freely and on easier terms. It is to be hoped that, as confidence and credit being now restored, the accustomed course of trade will not be long impeded. There does not appear to be any reduction during the last few weeks in the prices asked for the various descriptions of wood, yet the sales effected are on a very limited scale, and when made, have been at a shade under our last quotations; should, however, the commercial difficulties be prolonged, a depression in prices may be expected to follow. The demand for vessels to take emigrants to the colonies has in a great measure subsided. The tonnage cleared from hence for the timber ports, from 1st February to this time last year, is more by about one third than that of this year. No vessels, timber laden, have arrived since the commencement of the month."

Wilmer and Smith's European Times thus speaks of the state of the Money market at the time of the departure of the Mail.

Since our last publication the pressure upon the money market has been more severe than has been experienced for years past. Matters however, appear to be improving. During the last week there has been an increase in the deposits to the extent of £270,000, while the rest and the reserve have also increased considerably, and the bullion has increased to the extent of a quarter of a million. These favourable circumstances have enabled the bank to discount more freely, even on bills that had as much as three months to run. Advances were made to bankers at 5 1-2 per cent. on promissory paper. The favourable state of the American changes has had a beneficial effect on the market. The consol market, nevertheless, has been marked throughout by general heaviness and the belief is general that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will have to fund a portion of the Exchequer bills, now afloat. In Liverpool, we are glad to state that the payments of the present week, which are supposed to be the heaviest ever known, are provided for, and that the Hibernia, which sails to-day, will take out the news of all engagements fulfilled. The pressure during the last fortnight, has been most intense: but by extraordinary efforts and sacrifices credit has been preserved. The position of affairs is now this: the extreme pressure is gone, but money still remains extremely scarce and dear—far too dear for the profitable prosecution of business. Our quotations for all the several stocks, though lower than the closing prices of the last steamer, must be understood to be 1 to 2 per cent. higher than the lowest prices during the interval, as a very decided improvement took place between the 8th and the 18th inst.

There can be no doubt that the Bank is in steadily improving position; the present amount of bullion held by the establishment, is estimated, by very competent judges, to be ten millions, whilst the reserve of Bank notes is nearly four millions. The market to-day is steady, with little doing.

Our files of papers are from London to the 18th, and Liverpool to the 19th of May, from which we have gleaned copiously.

TIMBER BERTHS.—The Royal Gazette states that the first series of Public sales of Timber for the season, will take place at the Crown Land Office, in Fredericton on the following days:

Restigouche,	June 15.
Gloucester,	do. do.
Northumberland,	June 17
Kent,	do. do.

MILITIA ORDER.—We perceive by the Gazette, that the general Inspection of the Battalions of Militia throughout the Province, for the present year, is to be conducted by their respective Commanding officers at such times and places as they may appoint.

LAUNCH.—A fine ship of about 700 tons Register, was launched from the building-yard of Mr. Joseph Russel, at Beaubien's Island, on the morning of Saturday week. She was named the Intrinsic.

SICKNESS AT QUARANTINE STATIONS, &c.—The Quebec Gazette of the 28th May, contains the following paragraph.

"There are 35 emigrant vessels at the quarantine stations, and the number of emigrants amount to several thousands, many of them sick, and a number dead. It is stated that there are already 50 orphans at the station; for whom it is to be hoped the government will speedily provide an asylum."

The following is copied from the Morning Chronicle of the same date.

"Connected with this subject we may state

that A. C. Buchanan, Esq., Emigrant Agent, arrived from Montreal this morning, having authority to procure from the Ordnance Department tent equipage capable of accommodating 5000 persons at the quarantine station. They will be erected on a separate part of the island from where the sick are, and will be appropriated for the healthy portion of the emigrants, who are necessarily detained. Mr. Buchanan is fully empowered to make such further arrangements as he may conceive necessary, and for this purpose leaves for Grosse Isle this morning in the steamer St. George, which in future is to make two trips weekly."

The number of passengers arrived at this port we believe amount to upwards of 18,000.

A large body of emigrants have arrived at St. John, and it appears there is much sickness among them. The following paragraph is copied from the Observer of Tuesday last.

There are about twenty square rigged vessels at anchor at Partridge Island, several of them with passengers. There has been great mortality among the passengers on board a number of the vessels:—The Aldebaran has lost 34, and several others sick; the Inconstant from Cork, 214 passengers, 3 deaths, 10 sick; Thorney Close, from Donegal, 137 passengers, 8 dead, 17 passengers and two of the crew sick; Pallas, from Cork, 211 passengers, 2 dead, 31 sick; Sir Charles Napier, from L'Derry, 434 passengers, 2 dead, 6 sick; Amazon, from Liverpool, 247 passengers, 2 dead, 34 sick; Mary, from Cork, 120 passengers, 12 dead, 32 sick; Dealy from Bantry, 169 passengers, 22 dead, 40 sick, &c. A number of deaths have also occurred since the arrival of the vessels at Quarantine, principally of ship and typhus fevers,—additional accommodations are now being prepared on Partridge Island for the reception of the sick. There are upwards of 2000 passengers either on shore or afloat, at Quarantine.

A number of passengers have arrived at Halifax, and the papers state of sickness and great destitution existing among them.

A late New York paper furnishes the following distressing intelligence of the existence of disease in that city, brought in by recent arrivals of passenger vessels.

The Chief of Police informs us that ship fever is prevailing in this city to a considerable extent. A poor Irishman, whose name could not be ascertained, died of this fever in Washington street yesterday evening, and in the same house where he lived are some half dozen individuals in a dying condition. The police officers report 15 cases in Cherry street alone, eight or ten in the sixth Ward and others in the 9th and 14th Wards. The landlord of an emigrant boarding house in Washington, st. is also at the point of death with this disease. The chief tells us that the disease is unquestionably contagious, and rapidly increasing throughout the city. Unless active measures are taken to keep down this epidemic, when the warm weather sets in its effects will be melancholy in the extreme.

SPREAD OF TEMPERANCE.—Last week we noticed that Mr. L. F. PAYSON, deputed by the Saint John Young Men's Society, had given a lecture on this important subject on Monday evening. He delivered two other lectures on the evenings of Tuesday and Wednesday, and the Methodist Chapel in both instances, was well filled. The number of persons who subscribed the Total Abstinence pledge, on both evenings is 130, and they purpose immediately to organise themselves into a Society. Mr. P. gave a lecture at the School House in Newcastle, on Friday evening, and one at Douglastown last evening. At both places he was well received, and the audiences were numerous. At the latter place 33 signed the pledge. He proceeds to Bathurst; in the Stage on Wednesday morning, and purposes delivering another Lecture in Chatham, on his return.

MARK OF RESPECT.—The Ladies of the St. John's Church, Chatham, have recently presented their Pastor, the Rev. John M'Curdy, with an elegant Pulpit Gown and Bands, as a token of their affectionate regard for him personally, and of the high estimate they put upon his ministerial services, extending over a period of more than sixteen years, in which he has ably and faithfully expounded the scriptures, firmly maintained the government and order of the Church, and gone on hand in hand among his flock, sympathizing with them in their afflictions, rejoicing with them in their prosper-

ty, and at all times exercising towards them much cordial regard.

Some spirited gentlemen also, have lately made some valuable presents for their internal improvement of the Church edifice, which must be gratifying not only to the ministerial feelings, but also to those of the Congregation at large.—Communicated.

ARRIVAL OF EMIGRANTS.—The usual quiet of our little town was considerably disturbed on Thursday afternoon last, by the appearance of a ship's boat off Henderson's wharf, and one of the parties hailing some of the persons thereon, stating he wished to be put in communication with the public authorities. A number of individuals speedily congregated, among them two or three Magistrates. The person in the boat then said his name was Thane, that he commanded the ship Looshtauk, belonging to Dublin, of upwards of 600 tons, from Liverpool, bound to Quebec, out 7 weeks; that he had when he left port, 467 passengers, 117 of whom died on the passage; that there were now 100 unable to help themselves, and that the crew, from exhaustion, were not able to work the ship. He craved medical attendance, fresh provisions, bread, &c. Two of the Poor Commissioners being present, immediately set about collecting necessaries, and to the credit of the inhabitants of the town, the appeal to their humanity was spontaneously responded to. In a short time a large quantity of beef, bread, and other supplies were collected, and put on board the boat. The Hon. Joseph Cunard furnished the Captain with written instructions to the Commander of his Steamer, which was hourly expected from below, to tow the vessel up to the Quarantine ground. On Friday evening she was brought up by the steamer to the station, near Middle Island, and yesterday the passengers were landed on that Island, where temporary sheds had been erected for their reception on Sunday. The number of deaths, as far as we have been able to ascertain since she put into this port, up to yesterday evening, was forty—a shocking mortality—and several bodies were interred on Saturday, Sunday, and yesterday evening on the Island. Eleven births occurred on the passage—one on Sunday. The disease is Typhus fever.

We wish we could pause here in the recital of this heart-rendering narrative, as it gives us pain at all times, to censure the conduct of public functionaries—but the voice of the public, which is loud, far-extended, and unanimous—the cause of outraged and suffering humanity, demand that the tardiness, the supineness, and the want of proper energy manifested by the members of our session, should be condemned, and severely censured.

How is it, that this port has not, like all other shipping ports of similar standing, a proper and permanent Quarantine and Lazaretto. Since our residence in Miramichi, its site has been removed a number of times. Middle Island was for a long period the station—but being considered too near, Sheldrake Island was purchased and suitable buildings erected thereon; but because we had been providentially preserved for several years from sickness, and an influx of passengers, the Island was given up for the accommodation of the Lepers; and now, when a great emergency arises, a place is to be sought out, and buildings erected, when the poor sufferers are hourly dying, and calling loudly to be removed from disease and death.

The Magistrates may, and no doubt will say: they have done everything they could since the vessel arrived. Yes—they have held three Sessions, and after a delay of from Thursday evening to Saturday night, it was decided that temporary buildings should be erected on Middle Island for the accommodation of the