

thered shanks, and wondering what would be the upshot of the affair. At length the servant with the clothes arrived—Swivel seized them with eager haste. The shirt was donned at once without much trouble—true the wrist and neck would not button, but these were not material matters—the neckcloth and coat will hide all that, he philosophically observed as he surveyed himself with pleasure. Then came the moment 'big with fate' for Swivel. The right leg was precipitately thrust into the pantaloons, and with some difficulty the foot was got out at the proper place—the left followed—'hurra hur r r r r' shouted my gratified friend, but he was hallowing before he got out of the wood; true the legs were in, but the pantaloons were not yet pulled up, and the waist was still far above them. They were made of stout English cotton cloth, but were never intended to fit a man twice as big as their rightful owner. Gently did Swivel try and instigate himself into them, and sternly did they resist the instigating persuasion. 'I must give them a good tug,' and he did so, but valorously did the unfortunate article of dress withstand, straining, as it were, in every stitch. I could not help laughing if I were to be thrown for it the next moment into the river beside us. 'Don't stand there laughing, my good fellow,' said Swivel imploringly, the big round drops of anxiety standing on his forehead, and his face flushed with his exertions—but help me to get these confounded things up. I declare to heaven a worse made pair I never saw.' I joined him and vigorously aided his endeavours by pulling with all my force. 'Stop, stop,' shouted Swivel at once, energetically 'they're splitting—stop, I say.' I did so, and threw myself on the seat he had quitted to give vent to laughter. There he stood—each leg like an adamant pillar, quivering as it with the weight it had to sustain, but in reality from the excessive tightness of the dress which so obstinately refused to be coaxed upwards. Above them rose in majestic rotundity the portly stomach, which was the cause of all our woes, whilst the garment itself every moment gave unequivocal proofs that it was not long destined to bear the strain it already endured, and stitch by stitch gave way.

'There is no use in your trying it further,' said I, you had better take them off, and see if another pair will answer you better.'

Swivel looked at me as I said this with an eye of despair, and replied—

'Yes, it's all very well to say get them off, but what's to be done when I do so! and how am I to get them off?'

His eye and face were irresistible, and it was some time before I could say 'sit down here and Singho will pull them off while I send for some more,' (one or two servants having come down from the house to see the fun) I did so, and Swivel seated himself, but it putting them on had been a labor, taking them off was still worse. Fortunately the two legs of the pantaloons had by this time nearly parted company, and so could be taken off one at a time each without discommoding the other.

Poor Singho had by no means an enviable task of it. Swivel in his hurry had put on the clothes without drying himself thoroughly, and there they stuck fast and firm—tightness and wetness combining to prevent Singho from accomplishing the required duty, and to irritate Swivel the more. Seriously there seemed to be no prospect at all of getting them off, and to get another pair over them, was, of course, not to be thought of. 'Here's a pretty piece of business truly,' cried the fat sufferer—'there's no getting those d—d trowsers off, and by this time the mutton was being boiled to rags'—so saying he gave the unfortunate Singho a kick that sent him headlong into the river, and commenced stamping at his misfortunes, a few ejaculations occasionally escaping him, amongst which I could recognise—'The devil take all monkeys—horrible persecution!—laughing-stock—grinning niggers!—stayed!—no dinner! &c. &c. It was evident at length that the trowsers must be somewhat torn up the legs before they would part the company they so tenaciously maintained. This was done, and matters were thus brought back to their original condition. 'Well,' said Swivel, when this operation was performed, 'ere I am again minus the indispensables, what's the next piece of my persecutions—if these misfortunes come of sinning, I eschew it henceforth and for ever.' I really did not know what to do, and feared his temper would scarcely stand any more trials.

My wife's sagacity solved the difficulty. Some of the servants had told her of the plight we were in, and in a trice down came another with a pair of pyjamas, and a loose dressing gown. The first were easily got on, but the arms of the dressing gown were not accustomed to such bulky habitans, and offered considerable resistance to his occupation of them; whilst to button it on him was out of the question. For this, too, a remedy was provided by means of a piece of string, tying button to button in front, and thus stood my fat friend equipped. His first thought, as I anticipated, was dinner.

'Can I sit at your table in this plight, Start? said he.

'Certainly, my dear fellow, certainly,' I replied—'we're not particular in the jungle, you know.'

'Heaven bless you,' was his reply; 'but I fear the dinner will be spoiled.'

'Not more so than your hat,' said I, as he put it on his head, and trudged onwards towards the house.

The anticipation of dinner enlivened him before we got there, and if I remember rightly, his last observation as we entered was—'I fear I looked somewhat ridiculous, standing in the river up to my neck with my hat on, did I?'

'Not more so than when you got the pantaloons on,' I observed.

'Ah, Surt, no more o' that an' than lovest me, as Falstaff says, my sides will not be well for an age to come, but I hope the poor fellow I kicked into the river is not hurt—I must give him a trifle for that, for really he did his best.'

Swivel's misfortunes did not prevent him from eating a good dinner—the dinner itself was not so bad as we had anticipated—and I need scarcely add that we did justice to the wines—Swivel wisely observing that after much laughter, good wine was necessary, and after a bathing should be taken largely for medicinal purposes. The latter obligation I can vouch for his having nobly discharged, nor will I allow that, on my part, the necessity indicated was left unprovided for.

When we had arrived at that blissful condition in which our spirits dispense with every consideration of an unpleasant or grievous character, and gave themselves wholly up to joy and gladness—a condition generally indicated by one's getting into an easy chair, and planting another opposite for one's feet, (always keeping near the table and glasses however,) Swivel told me that the misfortunes he had endured at the river were not the only parts of his days persecution, which he said it would take a long time to efface from his mind, and which he looked upon as a chastening from above. To you this will sound as a profanity, but I assure you a more religious man than Swivel does not breathe, however much his condition in the early part of the day had led him astray in swearing. His observation was intended seriously, and I am sure you could scarcely avoid swearing yourself if you had been in Swivel's place at that river. His adventures during the two days previous were not so ludicrous as those of that evening, but they illustrate the man's character, so I shall endeavor to relate them in his own words, if you feel sufficiently interested in him to hear them. (To be Continued)

From the London People's Journal.
WHAT ARE WE SEEKING?

BY T. RUSSELL.

What are we seeking, one and all?
Whitherward are we going—
East or West,
Do we teach that rest
Where never a thorn is growing?
What are we seeking? Is it the Fame,
The world so meagrely doleful,
That, ere 'tis ours
We sleep 'neath flowers,
And the bell o'er our sepulchre tolleth?
Can it be Gold that is leading us on?
Is it for wealth we hanker?
Is it for this
We barter our bliss,
Gold! that doth speedily canker?
What are we seeking? Ask it of those
With us in the race contending,
And each reply
Will another deny,
For none knows whither he's tending.
Ask it of Youth, and the quick response
Will tell thee an olden story,
Of Love, of Joy, of many a noble coil,
Of maidens coy,
Or the eager thirst for "Glory."
Age will speak of a Home of Rest,
Where never a pain shall enter;
And great and small,
Their hope—their all,
In a different goal will centre.
What are we seeking? 'tis this,—
Every one his pleasure.
None the same;
This for a name,
That for a store of treasure,
What are we seeking? he who'd find
Must never grow faint or weary
Though never a beam
Of delight may gleam
On his pathway dark and dreary!

THE EMPEROR CHARLES V.

Towards the end of his days he was sorely depressed in spirits with the fear of torments in the next world. He retired to the monastery of St. Juste, in Spain, practised all the exercises of devotion there, shared in most of the austerities of the cloister, and amused his leisure with gardening and nice mechanical pursuits, especially watchmaking. In private he disciplined himself with such severity, that his whip, found after his death, was tinged with blood. Not satisfied with such acts of mortification and humility, he fixed one as wild as any ever suggested by superstition to a dis-tempered brain. It was to celebrate his own obsequies. He ordered his tomb to be erected in the chapel of the monastery; his domestics marched thither in funeral procession, holding black tapers. He was shrouded and laid in his coffin with much solemnity. The regular funeral service was performed, the living monarch joined in all the prayers for himself as dead. When the service was finished the monks and attendants quitted the church, leave Charles alone in his coffin, where he remained some time; he then rose, knelt awhile in devotion at the altar, and retired to his cell. He was soon afterwards seized with a fever, of which he died, on the 21st Sep. 1558.

Communications.

THE TRACADIE LEPROSY.

REPORT

OF CHARLES M. LABILLOIS, Surgeon 2nd Battalion County Bonaventure Militia, Province of Canada, respecting the Tracadie Disease.

The inhabitants of Tracadie, in the Province of New Brunswick, employed two persons in the course of last winter, to call on me for the purpose of inquiring whether I was the French Doctor, who, in the year 1818, effected several radical cures in Caraquette, on persons infected with a disease resembling what is at present improperly designated Leprosy. I answered that I was the person. They then assured me that the disease prevailing at Tracadie and Sheldrake Island was the same as I had hitherto attended and treated successfully in the year 1818; and also that the medical gentlemen employed by the Government had pronounced the Disease to be Leprosy, and incurable. Requesting at the same time that I would proceed to Tracadie, for the purpose of examining the persons so diseased, which had already proved fatal to so many, and leaving the unfortunate survivors a burthen to themselves, and a pest to society.

On the 12th August, 1849, I received a letter from the Rev. Mr. Lefrance, Chaplain to the Hospital, and a member of the Board of Health there, stating that the inhabitants had delegated the bearer, Bonaventure Savoie, to agree with me to proceed at once and treat the unfortunate individuals attacked with Leprosy, as the Board of Health had not power to employ a medical man, neither had they funds for that purpose.

Unwilling to compromise myself, or mislead the Reverend Gentleman thus enlisted in the cause of humanity, I wrote him that I had never cured or seen a cure of Leprosy; and described some of the symptoms which marked the true nature of the disease I formerly treated; requesting him, if on examination he found I was correct, to let me know, and I would forthwith proceed and take them in charge.

On the 7th September, I received an answer from Mr. Lefrance, in which he stated that he had carefully examined the appearances of the sores, &c., and other symptoms pointed out by me, and that he was confident I was correct in my views. I accordingly left my private practice, and other occupations, and proceeded without delay to Tracadie. On the 12th September, I examined the afflicted at the Hospital, and I must frankly state that I never seen a spectacle more calculated to harrow the feelings of humanity. The stench was so intolerable from putrefaction, that it required the greatest determination even to undertake the treatment of the unfortunates so situated, and so far advanced in the disease, many suffering from consecutive fever, and one in the last stage of Piferis, who has since died of that disease. Her name was Mary Rose Robicheau.

I cannot allow this opportunity to pass, without drawing the attention of the Government to the wretched accommodations afforded in the so-called Hospital; there being only two rooms, one for males and the other for females, without any convalescent ward, to remove those persons from amongst the infected, who thereby incur the risk of fresh inoculation. Another great want is water closets, to which those under treatment could at any time have access without exposure to cold or damp. Again is the great want of proper ventilation; another, the want of proper diet. I entered in charge of the Hospital on the 16th September, and having satisfied myself by examining each patient, I was convinced that it was the same disease which I treated in Caraquette in 1818, but far more inveterate and spread in the system, from being almost entirely abandoned to nature, from the absurd idea of its being incurable, and the Greek Elephantiasis.

I concur in the opinions of Doctors Wilson and Bayard, as to its being non contagious, and I fully concur in its being communicated by inoculation, but to a much greater extent than is admitted by those professional gentlemen. Neither can I agree with them that it requires a great degree of susceptibility in persons to be infected, than upon any characteristic virulence of the matter.

I deny the hereditary nature of the disease, if the parents have been cured of the disease before the impregnation of the female, or at the birth of the fetus. I know of no instance in medical science which can warrant me in believing the possibility of its development in the child, or grand-children, without positive inoculation. I fully agree with the before named gentlemen as to its ravages being accelerated by increased impurities of person, food and air.

The disease, in my opinion, is inveterate Syphilis, and not Elephantiasis; and I have much pleasure in being enabled to lay before the public my successful treatment of numbers of the unfortunate creatures so afflicted:

Case 1—Fabien Gautreau, from the Miramichi Hospital, and who I regarded as one of the worst cases, having a portion of the nose and lips eaten away by cancers, and having asked him (seeing no other wounds) how he became affected in those parts, the unfortunate man answered that his genitals were in a most deplorable condition, and often for the want of

Vide Adams on Morbid Poisons. Fordyce, Surgeon 3rd Regiment Foot Guards. Also, London Medical Observations and Enquiries, page 150, case from 1 to 9.

the necessary supply of water, he was obliged to make use of his saliva to wash the parts affected, and in this manner had infected his face.

I had the satisfaction to show this person to Professor Robb, when he came to visit the Hospital, and when I only had him six weeks under treatment, and he was then well advanced towards cure, and considered by me out of danger, when he left the Hospital. Charles Comeau, at 62, cured; Fidelle Bredeau cured, an old Miramichi patient; Augustin Benoit, at 14, cured; Louis Sonier, at 10, cured; Edward Vaneau, at 24, an old Miramichi patient, cured. Amongst the females are Mrs. Alexis Soumier, at 55 cured; Mrs. Soumier, at 35, from the Miramichi Hospital, cured, and with her family; Mrs. Ferguson, at 35, also from the Miramichi Hospital; she is now quite well, and performing her domestic duties amongst her family. The writer has been informed that this woman's Daguerreotype likeness was exhibited in the House of Assembly as incurable, and one of the most inveterate cases of Leprosy. Melina Sausie, at 12, from the Miramichi Hospital; Mr. Charles Comeau, at 58. The entire of the above cases are now quite well, and the treatment which I adopted was entirely for Syphilitic disease, thus establishing without any doubt, the truth of the nature of the disease. It is only surprising to me that the real nature of the disease should have escaped the keen observation of gentlemen so eminent in their profession, and varied in their general acquirements.

The nature, and above all, the appearance of a syphilitic sore, is so well known, as to require no description; and again, the copper-colored sores would, in my opinion, be conclusive.

From these cases the deductions to be drawn, are—1st, that the disease is not incurable; and, 2ndly, that the premises which I advocated are correct, as any person may receive the information from the individual cases above alluded to.

Again, we find that the Leprous infection is of a different nature from that of Syphilis. It is not so easily communicated, nor will it yield to the same remedies. On the contrary, its virulence is increased by them, and they make it break out with more violence. This has been particularly experienced, when, after due preparations, mercurial frictions have been used. On the approach of winter, I desisted from my treatment, in consequence of the Hospital being unfit, and unwilling to expose the lives of those remaining by subjecting them to the treatment; and unable, from the want of the necessary articles, even to give that almost indispensable necessary, a warm bath, even for the sake of cleanliness.

From my constant attendance at the Hospital, breathing so impure an atmosphere, having been engaged in the Hospital from 9 o'clock, A. M., till noon, and again from 2 o'clock, P. M., until sunset, and even then to pay visits in particular cases, I found my health very much affected thereby; nevertheless, I would have continued to discharge my duties to the best of my ability, had the Hospital been in such a state as to warrant my continuance.

I, however, deemed it expedient to leave in the hands of the Rev. Mr. Lefrance, a sufficient supply of medicines, with instructions for use, for the further treatment of those still remaining, and who have not been totally cured, in the hopes that they may be equally benefited as their fellow sufferers. Owing to the very imperfect manner of carrying the mail to and from that unfortunate and remote part of the Province, I have not had the pleasure of any communication from the Reverend Gentleman, and am waiting anxiously for his report. I left many in the Hospital from the causes before mentioned, which I intend, should the Government require my services, in the spring, to undertake their perfect cure and restoration to society, their poor families and friends. I also beg leave further to remark, that the disease is not confined to the small number of persons enclosed in Hospital, for half of the cases were persons who secreted themselves, afraid of being incarcerated in the Hospital, and thus abandoned without any means being used for their recovery. A number of the neighbouring counties are also infected with the disease, and all those appear desirous of coming forward next summer, and submitting to the treatment which they have seen attended with such beneficial results in so many cases.

In conclusion, I beg of the Government, or of any person incredulous of the facts, to enquire of the Hon. James Davidson, or the Rev. Mr. Lefrance, who, I have no doubt, will authenticate the facts above set forth.

CHAS. M. LABILLOIS, Surgeon.
Dalhousie, February 12, 1850.

Vide Remarks on London Medical Observations and Enquiries, from page 169 to 183.

Vide London Medical Observations, page 210. Also Pringle on Venereal, page 19. Mason Good on Elephantiasis. Dr. Heady, 1785. Hillary on the Diseases of Barbadoes, page 313. Heady, part 1, section 2. Grey, Horst and Ulm.

MILITIA COMMISSIONS.

BLIS FIELD, January 29, 1850.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

Sir,—Your Gleaner of the 14th instant has just come to hand, and I regret that my humble remarks should have called forth the severe strictures of your Frederickton correspondent. My object in addressing you was neither for ostentation, nor to bring the service into ridicule, but to bring to the notice of those similarly situated with myself the great hardship that exist in compelling those obliged to per-