

Communications.

One man is crucified for a crime, which raises another to a throne.

A certain faux pas which has created no small commotion in a retired locality, and has afforded ample scope for scandal and gossip to all the newsmongers for miles around, leads us to consider how far the recognized usages of society, tend not only to tolerate, but even to countenance, vice and immorality. That "vice to be hated needs but to be seen" is an old proverb, the truthfulness of which is universally admitted—but the usages and customs of modern genteel and refined society appear to us of a totally opposite tendency. According to the strict moral code of all christian communities, a woman loses caste the moment she is convicted of having strayed from the paths of virtue. The finger of scorn is as firmly and unrelentingly directed towards her as the finger post on a high-way. The friends of her childhood, her nearest relatives, all shun her as though she were a leper, and they dreaded the contaminating influence. Thus have thousands, who might have been reclaimed and become valuable members of society, been driven to a life of infamy. This is the course pursued towards earth's fairest flower. But what is the punishment inflicted on the cold-blooded villain who has wrought this ruin? Is he a marked man—does he become an outcast—and like Cain is he forced to exclaim—"My punishment is greater than I can bear"! Not so. The Lord of the creation not only escapes unscathed, but is actually countenanced in his deeds of darkness. Countenanced did we say? Aye countenanced? Can this be possible, some fair reader might exclaim,—and pray by whom? By those who from sheer fellow feeling—apart even from christian duty, ought to mark him as an outcast, at least from female society. YOUR OWN SEX. Show me a notorious debauchee, one moving in your own sphere—and then, let me ask, how many of his acquaintances receive him as a constant, perhaps a favoured guest. If he be rich how many not only court but feel honoured by his acquaintance. Whence then this strange difference? Why tolerate in the one sex that which is so unrelentingly punished in the other? No human laws or customs, we maintain, can be good, however plausible or fair in outward appearance, however justified by custom or antiquity, which cannot be tested by Holy Writ. That is the sole foundation stone on which a substantial and useful social edifice can be raised—the only chart whereby a true and safe course can be steered.

The Law as delivered on Mount Sinai was addressed to all alike both Jew and Gentile—to the then living generation, as well as to the thousands that were to succeed it. The wording of the Ten Commandments is so plain that even an unbeliever cannot question their true import. Does the Seventh then apply more to woman than to man—or can any part of Scripture be quoted which justifies its being set at naught by either sex. None! What can be more disgraceful, what more injurious to the well being of society, in a mere moral and worldly point of view, than to see a married man, the father of a large family, a gross sensualist, a depraved debauchee. What an example to his children—what a plague spot on society. We have on various occasions discussed this subject with our fellow men, and when insisting on the views we have ever and still maintain—our arguments have been met with the plausible excuse, that but for such a convenient moral code, a man might be burthened with the maintenance and education of children which were not his own. To this we heartily assent, but if it be unjust that a man should be thus burthened, what right has he to rob his children to give to strangers? In a mere worldly sense, such a man not only breaks the Seventh but likewise the Eighth Commandment, because he robs his Wife and Children of a portion of their patrimony. How many families have we known straightened in circumstances, or even reduced to indigence, by the depravity of a worthless father. Mark the evil tendency of such an example as regards his own children, and its baneful influence on society at large. If such depravity be practiced and tolerated by the higher classes, what must be the effect upon the less educated? Example is far before precept, and if those who sit in high places, the wealthy, the more enlightened are evil doers, how can we expect morality to prevail among those who are ever prone to imitate and conform to the fashions as well as to the vices of their betters.

Is there no remedy for this social plague spot? Can no plan be devised by which at least to check the gross and shameless sensualist? We think there is a plain and easy remedy, and the following incident will illustrate our views.

Towards the close of the last war, the 4th Regiment of Foot was quartered in the Island of —, a British Colony. The worthy Chaplain was one of those who practised what he preached, in short one who was universally respected and beloved. His helpmate, who we trust is still living and in good health, though somewhat advanced in years, and who can testify to the truthfulness of our story, was not only the wife of the Chaplain, but one eminently calculated to be a Clergyman's wife. She possessed no common share of the milk of human kindness. Her charity did not consist in mere alms giving; hers was true christian charity—that of the soul—and to crown her many virtues she possessed a strength of mind and firm-

ness of character rarely equalled in her sex. Among the officers of their corps was Capt. H—, a member of a wealthy Devonshire family. A few years previous to the period to which we allude, Captain H— had married the daughter of a respectable country gentleman, of good family, one of whose ancestors figure in history as a staunch loyalist, and a brave champion of the unfortunate Charles the First. Mrs H.'s father having but a small patrimony, her face may be said to have been her marriage portion, for which reason the match gave great offence to the Captain's family, and a visit, which he paid them, resulted in his abandoning his wife and infant son, without even assigning a reason for his base and heartless conduct, leaving them wholly dependant on the lady's father for support. Captain H. having obtained leave of absence, did not embark with his regiment, but joined some time after his brother officers were comfortably settled in their new quarters. Shortly after his arrival the Chaplain's wife gave an evening party, to which all the military were invited save Captain H. This omission somewhat puzzled our hero, and occasioned some surprise among the Officers of the Garrison. The Colonel shrewdly suspected something was amiss, and took an opportunity of mentioning the subject to General M—, the officer in command of the Island. The latter undertook to sift the matter, and accordingly called on the Chaplain, in order to ascertain if the omission was premeditated. His enquiry was answered by the mistress of the house, if our memory serves us, in the following spirited terms:—"Our not inviting Captain H., General, is premeditated on my part, and I have reflected seriously on the subject ere I proposed to Mr (her husband) to adopt such a course. You are probably aware that Capt. H. is a married man, and has abandoned his young wife and infant son, without any just or plausible reason. Not only has he abandoned them, but he does not contribute one shilling towards their maintenance. Mrs H. being a personal friend of mine, our families residing within a few miles of each other, and being on intimate terms, none can be better acquainted with the facts of the case than myself. Under these circumstances I consider it my duty as a christian woman, as a mother, but more especially as the wife of a clergyman, openly and publicly to discountenance such base and unprincipled conduct; and if the Ladies of the Regiment will follow my example, he will soon return to the path of duty as a Husband and Father, for I am fully resolved that he shall never be a visitor at my house, nor will I notice him in public or private until he restores his wife to her proper position." This novel mode of warfare took the veteran by surprise. Though a bachelor he was feelingly alive to the duties and proprieties of married life, and many have received a kind hint or useful lesson from the worthy General. After a short pause he stated his ignorance of the facts, complimented the Chaplain's wife on her firmness and decision of character, and assured her that her plan should have his cordial countenance and support, as he had no doubt it would have the desired effect.

On the evening of the party the subject was discussed among the ladies, and the hostess strongly urged her guests to second her efforts, not only to re-unite those whom none should put asunder, but to mark their disapprobation of such conduct, which would be a salutary lesson to others. She also maintained that Captain H.'s conduct towards his wife, was an insult to their sex, which they were bound to resist. Her powers of persuasion were of no ordinary kind, and all finally agreed to vindicate the rights of their own sex. The erring Captain was accordingly sent to Coventry by all the Ladies of the Regiment, and a few brief months sufficed to restore him not only to his wife but to happiness and comfort.

Years rolled on. It had pleased God to remove the worthy Chaplain from the scene of his labours and usefulness, and his widow had returned with her four orphan children to her native place. The eldest daughter having just completed her education, was on a visit to her Grandfather's, when who should pay a morning call but Captain H., accompanied by his son, now a fine handsome youth. On being introduced to the young lady, whom he had not seen for some years, he enquired of her Aunts if she was a daughter of the deceased Chaplain's, and on being answered in the affirmative, he enquired most particularly after her mother, to whom he sent the following message:—"Pray present my best respects to your worthy Mother, and tell her that I shall avail myself of the first fine day to call and thank her for her kindness to me, had others previously followed her praiseworthy example, I should not have been so long estranged from my wife and boy."

This we believe to be a case in point. But for the Chaplain's wife Captain H. would probably never have seen the error of his ways. For even supposing any of the married ladies in the Regiment to have entertained the like feelings on the subject and conceived the same plan, few were likely to have had the same courage to execute it. This is not the only instance we could name where vice has been made to quail beneath the withering glance and unflinching purpose of a woman, who, regardless of the whitewashing customs of the world, would never stoop to countenance, by word or deed, that which could not be reconciled with Holy Writ.

Let the same line of conduct be adopted in our various communities towards those heads of families who are open and shameless profligates, and a healthier tone will speedily prevail throughout the entire so-

cial body. Let the society of such men be avoided by every virtuous and right minded woman. Let them become marked men and none will dare, at least openly, to practice and glory in gross immorality. A powerful incentive to such a course which we would urge upon all mothers an wives, is, that for their own sakes such characters should be banished from all social intercourse. A profligate, however good a neighbour in other respects, however pleasant a companion, is in our opinion the most dangerous of all bad men. A bad man's children and servants will be corrupted by his example and conversation—these in their turn will corrupt others. Suppose some contagious and deadly epidemic to rage in your neighbourhood, would you not rigidly forbid all intercourse with families thereby affected to every member of your household? And what we will ask is more to be dreaded than the contaminating influence of a worthless profligate. "Evil communications corrupt good morals." How often have we heard such observations as these—my husband is not like the same man since he has become so intimate with A.

"Vice is a monster of such hideous a mien, That to be hated needs but to be seen; But seen too oft, familiar grows her face, We first endure, then pity, then embrace." MERCATOR. New Carlisle, 13th August, 1853.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI: CHATHAM, SATURDAY, AUG. 27, 1853.

TERMS.—New subscribers Fifteen Shillings per annum, in all cases in advance. Old subscribers 15s. in advance, or 20s. at the end of the year. We prefer the advance price, and as it effects a saving of 25 per cent., we hope soon to see all our subscribers avail themselves of it.

UNITED STATES. CHOLERA, Heat, and Yellow Fever, were still raving off a large number of persons in different Cities of the Union.

It appears that W. B. Astors, of New York, pays the enormous sum of \$40,000 yearly for taxes. A good round sum truly. The Bangor papers complain of the want of water, and state that the mills on the streams were hung for want of it, and that the Lumbermen were anxiously looking for rain to enable them to drive their logs on the main rivers to the mills.

The following accounts of the recent sad disasters on the Providence and Worcester Railways, are furnished by eye witnesses.

Mr William Bates of Northbridge Centre, who was on board the train, in a letter to the Traveller, gives the following description of the scene as it passed under his observation:—"I was seated with my wife in about the middle of the second car. I was first alarmed, for an instant, by a terrible whistle; then came crash upon crash, with a violent concussion; all before me in the car, seemed to be thrown into a confused mass together; broken seats flying, and the forward part of our car crushing in like an eggshell. I had time merely to say to my wife, "Keep quiet—don't rise," as the bottom of the car behind us shot directly over my head, taking off my hat.

Then followed the most heart-rending cries, accompanied by a terrible struggle for life by the mass of men and women buried beneath the shattered timber of the car-bottom. My wife and myself were, for a few moments, confined between the floor above us and the broken seats, although wholly uninjured. During those few moments, a terrible scene of suffocation oppressed me. By the tearing away of the seat beneath us, I was enabled to extricate Mrs. Bates, although a dying man near me was clutching my hair, crying "Mr Bates save me! oh, save me!"

Soon as Mrs Bates was liberated and passed forward, I lost sight of her amid the ruins, but she called to me that she was safe, and requested me to turn my attention to the wounded around me, and soon after suffered herself to be removed from the window. I immediately broke out the two windows near me, then caught hold of a man whose shoulders were crushed beneath the large timber of the car at the bottom. He told me his feet were not fast.

With a desperate effort I extricated him, when the floor settled in such a way as would have crushed him had he remained half a minute more. I then broke down with my feet the seat on which I had been sitting, to liberate the poor man, Mr Thomas Brown, of Whitinsville, who had caught my hair, and a lady, (Mrs Richmond, of Southbridge,) whose heads were bent over the back of the seat, and held by the large timber of the car bottom over them. But although I broke down the seat, the timber was so confined by connection with other timbers and by the oil-cloth carpeting of the car, that they could not be relieved until a man near me and I had cut the carpet with knives. Before we could extricate them they had both ceased to speak. One seemed alive as we put him through the window to those without, but he soon died. Mrs Richmond was entirely dead. Mr Brown is also now dead. I continued to strive to relieve the wounded. One man, to

whom I could not get, called on me by name, beseeching me to remove a timber that was crushing his legs. He was soon freed by others, his leg horribly crushed.

Our cars hardly stopped at the depot we passed above the accident, and as we passed, a man apparently connected with the road, at the depot, remonstrated with the conductor, against his proceeding, and as the cars passed on at a rapid rate, remarked, "There will be a smash-up in two minutes." That collision did take place in less than that time.

The following is from the account furnished to the Journal by Mr Shaw:—"The trains came in collision when going at nearly full speed. The result was terrible. The first car of the down train was smashed to pieces, the tender having been driven through it. The second car was not much injured, but was driven into the third car, about half its length. The five rear cars were not much injured. In the first passenger car there were only twelve or fifteen passengers, three or four of whom were killed outright, and others were badly injured. Several passengers were taken out of the above cars dead, and at least fifteen badly, many of them probably mortally wounded. Among the killed was the fireman of the Uxbridge train. He leaves a wife and two children at Uxbridge. Mr J. P. Butts, of Millville, and his grandson, a boy of ten years of age, were in the first car, and escaped most miraculously. The car was totally demolished, but he and the boy were thrown in a most inexplicable manner out at the side of the car, and rolled down an embankment. Mr Butts was not injured. The boy had a severe cut on the head. Another of the passengers belonging to Millville, was thrown out in the same way, and was not injured. Most, if not all the passengers in this car were either badly wounded or killed. A very large number of the passengers who escaped serious injury in this train, were cut by the splinters.

Subscription Lists have been circulated, and meetings held in different cities and towns, for the purpose of obtaining funds for the relief of the sufferers in New Orleans. The New York Herald furnishes the following list of the places and the monies obtained: New York \$30,000 Mobile \$2,000 Philadelphia 12,000 Charlestown 1,000 Baltimore 6,000 Savannah 2,000 Boston 4,000 Washington 3,900 Total \$60,000

The same paper remarks:—"Subscriptions are yet in circulation, and the citizens of some places have called meetings for the same praiseworthy object; and we doubt not, before the close of another week, the sum will be augmented to one hundred thousand dollars."

RAILWAY NEWS. We are indebted to the New Brunswick-er of Tuesday last, for the following gratifying piece of intelligence respecting the progress which is making in this Province in Railway matters: Yesterday, the gentlemen engaged in surveying the line Northwardly from Shediac to Canada arrived in this City. This party consists of Frank Giles, Esq., T. McMahon Cregan, Esq., C. W. Scott, Esq., James Edgar, Esq., and Mr M. Burke.—We learn that they had advanced as far as the Richibucto River, and that they found no great engineering difficulties in their route. They will immediately commence locating the line from this City towards the Bend and it is expected that by the 14th of September, the surveyors will be far enough advanced to decide upon the track for the Railway, as another party is now engaged in surveying that portion of the line from the Bend towards this city and they have already advanced about twenty-eight miles towards St. John.

The line from Shediac to the Bend is entirely completed, as regards surveys, and nearly all cleared, so that in a short time it will be ready for permanent works. From all quarters we hear that the surveys are proceeding as rapidly as possible.

THE COMET. THE Halifax Colonist of the 23rd instant, contains the following Communication from a correspondent dated at Woodside the previous day: A Comet was seen from hence last evening about 9 o'clock. It made its appearance in the Northern part of the heavens, at an elevation of about 30 to 40 degrees above the horizon, it was distinctly seen with the naked eye, until the light of the moon then rising, somewhat obscured its brilliancy.

CANADA. SOME important changes have been made in the Canadian Ministry, in consequence of Mr Caron's appointment of a Judgeship of the Supreme Court. The Gazette contains the following announcement: The Hon. Mr Morris, Postmaster General, to be Speaker of the Legislative Council in the place of Mr. Caron; Hon. Mr. Cameron, President of the Executive Council, to be Postmaster General in place of Mr. Morris, and the Hon. Mr Rolph, Commissioner of Crown Lands, to be President of the Executive Council in stead of Mr Cameron. The Commissionership of Crown Lands is therefore for the present vacant.

PAYING FOR A PAPER. THERE is too much truth, we are sorry

to say, in the following remarks copied from the Germantown Telegraph. Our subscribers are, unfortunately for us, scattered over a large district of Country, and the difficulty of collecting with us, is therefore considerably exhanced: Except the cash system is exclusively and rigidly observed, we know of no business whose bills are so difficult to collect. This is not because the subscribers are unwilling to pay, but it is principally owing to pure neglect. Each one imagines that because his year's indebtedness is so small a sum, the printer cannot be much in want of that, without for a moment thinking that the fruits of his entire business are made of exactly such sums, and that the aggregate of all the subscribers is by no means an inconsiderable amount of money, and without which the publisher could not for a single month continue to issue his paper.

LECTURE ON SLAVERY. It will be seen by an advertisement, that Mr Moses Roper, intends Lecturing on this subject in the Hall of the Sons of Temperance, this evening. The following notice of Mr R. is taken from the Newfoundland Morning Post: A Lecture on Slavery, delivered by Mr. Roper at the Factory last evening, was one of the deep and thrilling interest, and could not be heard without feelings of the deepest emotion. In compliance with a generally expressed desire, Mr. Roper has consented to deliver one more lecture here this evening, and we deem it but fair towards this community to state, that those who do not attend tonight, may be deprived of an opportunity of hearing that which it would indeed be a serious loss to miss.

EDUCATION. THE following correct remarks on this subject, is copied from a late number of Blackwood's Magazine: "Everybody should have his head, heart, and hand educated. By the proper education of heart, he will be taught to hate what is evil, foolish and wrong. And by proper education of the hand, he will be enabled to supply his wants, to add to his comfort, and to assist those around him. The highest object of a good education are to reverence and obey God and to love and serve mankind. Everything that helps us in obtaining these objects is of great value, everything that hinders us, is comparatively worthless. When wisdom reigns in the head and love in the heart, the man is ever ready to do good; order and peace reign around him, and sin and sorrow are almost unknown."

COST OF INTEMPERANCE. An exchange paper states that it is estimated that the annual consumption of intoxicating liquors costs in France, \$260,000,000; in Great Britain, \$195,000,000; in Sweden, \$65,000,000; in the United States, \$40,000,000; all this in addition to the cost of prisoners, police, asylums, workhouses, &c., which are rendered necessary by their abuse.

AWARD OF MEDALS. We understand that the Commissioners of the London Exhibition awarded, and have sent out Medals to WILLIAM J. FRASER, Esq., of Chatham, and Mr JOHN CHALMERS, of Douglastown. To the former for Preserved Fish, several cans of which were sent home to the Exhibition; and to the latter for Candles, manufactured from the Bay Berry or Wax plant, as it is commonly called. These articles, as well as a variety of others, were forwarded from hence by the Board of Agriculture, and it affords as much satisfaction to be enabled to record that some of them have been considered worthy of notice and reward by the Board of Commissioners. This is another instance of the truth of the current remark, that we only require to be aroused to a proper sense of our own position and capabilities, to take our proper position among our fellow Colonists.

THE SEASON. THE change in the weather has been most extraordinary. About ten days ago we were scorched and burnt up with the intense heat of the sun; since then considerable rain has fallen, the wind has prevailed from the North and Northeast; and the evenings and mornings are damp and extremely cold, rendering a fire necessary for comfort. There has been frost the last four nights, but not sufficient we should think to injure any thing.

MARRIAGES. At St. Michael's Chapel, Chatham, on Sunday evening last, by the Rev. Richard Vereker, P. P., Mr JAMES GRIFFIN, to Miss ANN BRYSON, both of the Parish of Chatham.

NOTICE TO FARMERS, &c. Persons having Hides, Skins, Tallow and Butter, or either of those articles to dispose of, will find a ready sale for them, (for Cash,) at the Chatham Auction Room. WM. LETSON, Commission Agent and Auctioneer. Chatham, August 12, 1852.