## THE SISTERS OF CHARITY.

In an article upon the charities of Paris, published over the signature of H. D. F., in a recent number of the N. Y. *Evangelist*, a Protestant journal, we find the following touching tribute to the Sisters of Charity:—

"But little would be accomplished by the largest means and the most judicious organization, were it not for those humble auxiliaries who take upon themselves the hardest part of the work, the Sisters of Charity. They are not paid for it, they derive from it no worldly advantage, but devote their lives to it in the most beautiful spirit of Christian self-denial. On their banner is inscribed only these words of the Divine Master: 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me.' They may sometimes have a narrow superstitious conception of their calling, but I have seen a great deal of them, and my experience leads to a different opinion. I found them, on the contrary, remarkably free from bigoted prejudices; they deal too much with the saddest realities of life, not to be indulgent and liberal in their views.

"The sacrifice of domestic ties and affection seems to direct all the instincts of their womanly nature towards the suffering objects of their care. She, who can never have children of her own to return her love, can lavish her affection on the wretched little orphans committed to her; she can be a sister to the wounded soldier in the hospital, to all the sick and dying. The finer the womanly nature, the more beautifully is her duty fulfilled. It inquires their sweet words of consolation and sympathy, it leads them to relieve, by the most graceful devices, the dreariness of the hospital ward, making it really a home for the wanderer and the forsaken, and it truly justifies the names of mother and sister which suffering humanity have given them.

"Once, in the Hospital for Foundlings, I was taken with a Sister having charge of the room which receives the children as soon as they are found, when a little being was brought to her. On the rags which hardly covered him, was pinned a paper, bearing this saddest of all human records, 'Father, mother unknown!' It was a beautiful boy, four or five weeks old, but it had been exposed to the cold all night in an alley, and its short life was rapidly ebbing away. How many homes would have blessed the advent of such a child! But no young mother, exulting in the possession of her firstborn, could have tended it more lovingly than did this humble Sister. She covered its pale face with kisses. As if recalled by them a moment to life, the child opened its eyes and met hers with a singular expression of intelligence, and then shut them forever, thus taking to Heaven the sweetest thing of this world, a mother's smile. This woman was young, very handsome, and naturally refined, yet her whole life was enclosed within those walls, where vice, shame and despair, threw their innocent victims into her arms. Long shall I remember the sweet saintly face and the thrilling sympathy which she whispered, as we were watching together the last moments of the poor little foundling. 'You have no children of your own!' our womanly hearts united in an almost unconscious yearning for this young life passed away. Was that a useless existence, the product of a weak superstition? On the contrary, its moral beauty illuminated this saddest of all abodes of charity; for the mere thought that those poor little ones had been abandoned by those who gave them being, seemed to fill the very air of the place with chilliness and gloom. In the ward which receives children past the first stage of infancy, collected in alleys, in the streets and tenement houses, I found a group of poor little girls that neither caresses nor loving words could awaken from their sad apathy. One just brought from the hospital, where her mother had died, made the room resound with the piteous cry, 'mamma, mamma!' and they all stared at her, as if the sweet word had no meaning for them.

"Leaving with a shudder this scene of desolation, I turned my steps to the Hospital for Convalescent Children; there, all was hope, life and sunshine. From the homes of the poor, from the different hospitals for the sick, the children are brought when all danger is past, for the benefit of fresh air and good nourishment. Here, in spacious halls, under the shade of stately avenues, and amid beds of flowers, they romp and play, and get fresh blood in their cheeks. Each little face had a smile for the visitor, each small, emaciated hand had a sympathetic pressure. The Sisters were moving to and fro in a happy bustling way, propping up this one in his little chair, giving a kiss to another, distributing the nourishing food so agreeably craved by all. It was one of the prettiest sights in the world; the sky seemed bluer, the flowers sweeter, as if nature had joined in the work of love and charity.

* * * * *

"Had I not already passed the limits of a letter, I could describe many other places where the same wise forethought, the same devoted charity, are working equally beautiful results. Often, during these visits, I thought of St. Luke's Hospital, in New York, and of that apostolic man whose large heart has created this noble institution. He had once argued with me for a Protestant sisterhood, devoted to works of religion and charity, while I contended that such an influence might best issue from the sphere of domestic life. But I now felt the force of his argument as I had not before. Such a lot can be very happy. One may be led to it by sorrow or dissappointment, but it is often a pure, young, hopeful heart which is thus offered on the altar. Talking with the sisters, I found that almost all had been brought to their resolution by a deep religious feeling."

## INTERESTING DISCOVERIES IN ABYSSINIA.

A gentleman connected with the Abyssinian expedition, writing from Attigerat, on March 22, says:—"At Goom Goomа I saw a most interesting relic, one of the oldest Christian churches in the world. But I had to undergo a great deal of physical labor to reach it. The church is situate in the cleft of an almost inaccessible rock, and, according to our guide, was at one time a fort. It is surrounded with graves—some cut out of the rock, some built in the crevices. Near the entrance were two flat slabs, or stones, hung upon the top of a pole, which, when struck by a wooden mallet, gave a "clatter," or sound, which answered for a bell to call the congregation. The church is a long, narrow, low building, divided into three divisions, the walls being mud and very thick. Inside, the walls were covered with representations of our Saviour, the Virgin Mary, the twelve Apostles, and battle scenes, very like Kitto's Bible illustrations. There was a font cut out of the natural rock, and full of most delicious water, and we were compelled by our guide to bow before this font—the legend being that a St. Libanus, when the people were perishing for want of water at one time, struck the rock and immediately the water rushed out, and has continued to run ever since. But the most wonderful thing of all was three volumes, supposed to be the oldest edition of the Bible, written in Ethopian. The leaves are tied together with pieces of calf skin, and although so very old, the Bible looks beautiful and fresh. A person is to work trying to translate the Bible, to see if it will throw any additional light on the historical parts of our Bible. Altogether this was a most interesting place, and well repaid the labor required to reach it."

## THREATENED FENIAN RAID.

The Montreal Gazette of yesterday has the following:—We have this morning received private and authentic information from our special correspondent at St. Albans, to the effect that there is an intention to make a Fenian raid from that vicinity about the 1st of June, of a more formidable character than those hitherto attempted. Preparations are being made in various New England States. St. Albans was selected as the base of operations, at a meeting on Tuesday night. The Volunteer force in Canada is to be warned to see to the efficiency of its arms, and the supply of ammunition on hand is to be promptly reported to head-quarters. Fenians are also reported mustering in force at Malone. The Volunteer force here is not in efficient condition, and will not parade on the Queen's Birthday with the Regulars, as ordered, but will be sent on excursion to country places. They are, however, enthusiastic, and determined, if occasion requires, to drive back the foe.

## MRS. LYON'S WANTS BACK HER £60,000 FROM PROFESSOR HOME, THE SPIRITUALIST.

The great spiritualistic will case of Lyon *vs.* Home—*the charge of obtaining* £60,000 by the exercise of "spiritual" influence was opened before Vice Chancellor Gifford, in London, April 23. The plaintiff is a widow about seventy years of age, named Lyon, who seeks to recover money and securities to the value of £60,000, which she alleges were improperly obtained from her by the defendant, Mr. Home, the well known spiritualist. Mrs. Lyon alleges in her affidavit that before dying her husband informed her that he believed a change would come in seven years from his death, and that they would meet. This she interpreted to mean that she would die in 1866, but in that year her view on the point changed, in consequence of her becoming acquainted with some spiritualists, who lent her books on spiritualism and directed her attention to the great medium, Mr Home, who had just opened an "Athenæum" at Solane Street for the encouragement of the belief. Mrs. Lyon was also advised to become a subscriber to the institution. On Oct. 3, 1866, she went to Solane Street, where the Athenæum was and where Mr. Home resided.—She was shown up stairs into a room where Mr. Home was sitting in company with a table, which, directly after the plaintiff had stated the case, began to rap a message. Home said at once that "this was a call for the alphabet." Home then, by means of the alphabet applied orally, developed the following message from the spirit of the deceased Mr Lyon: "My own beloved Jane. I am Charles, your beloved husband; I live to bless you, my own precious darling; I am with you always; I love, love, love you." The spirit further added, "I have no power to speak more; but I will never leave you more, my own darling." The plaintiff, who was greatly cheered and comforted by this intelligence, proposed to reward Mr. Home by a handsome subscription; but having no check book with her she postponed the donation till a second interview, when among other things the spirit, interpreted by Home, informed her, "I love, love, love you. Be very calm. I will touch you." These interviews appear to have been worth to Mr. Home or his Athenæum the sums of £30 and £40. At a third interview between Home and the plaintiff, at the plaintiff's house, the spirit, with Home's assistance, communicated the tidings, "I love Daniel," meaning presumably Mr. Home, "he is to be your son; he is my son—therefore yours." The table then ecstatically kicked up its legs, and the spirit continued. "I am happy, happy. In a little time I will make myself visible to you. Oh, do not say that the light of other days is gone. I am with you," or words to that effect. The defendant, Home, further informed her that it was the will of the spirit that she should adopt him as her son, that a friend of Home's named Hall should be sent for, and that she should produce stock receipts for the sum of about £24,000. Under the influence, as Mrs. Lyon alleges, of Home's spiritual powers and ascendency, she went, on the 10th of October, 1866, to the Bank of England and there transferred the sum of £24,000 stock to Home. Shortly after this Home, at another interview, assured her that it was the spirit's will that she should destroy her existing will and make another will bequeathing everything she possessed to Home, and that a Dr Hawksley and a Mr. Ruder were to be the attesting witnesses. The will to this effect was soon afterwards prepared for the defendant by William Wilkinson, a solicitor of Lincoln's-inn-fields, and was executed by the plaintiff, and attested by Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Hall. Further sums of money were afterwards transferred by her to Mr. Home. The plaintiff's property is said to be worth nearly £150,000. A writ of *ne exat regno* having been granted and the defendant arrested upon it, all the monies and securities in question have been brought into court.

The case is now settled, and Mrs. Lyon's will get back her money. The above digest is from a letter to the N. Y. *Herald*.

## A NEW DESTRUCTIVE.

Sir John Pakington told the House the other night that whereas guns used to cost us £100 a piece, they now cost two or three thousand pounds, and that the ammunition necessary to test only one of these guns cost more than £2,000. It is satisfactory to learn, on the authority of a Madgeburg journal, that a new explosive material has been discovered, which must, we should think, be very much less expensive. It consists of nitro-glycerine reduced to a solid form, whose force is something terrific. Unfortunately, what money is saved in the attack is more than lost in the defence, and it is stated that no ironclad afloat would be able to resist this new material. Thus we go on from year to year, divising more powerful implements of war, and then stronger means of defence, is our perpetual and ruinous succession, until we see before us nothing less than financial ruin and extermination if we ever go to war. There is only one consolation; the evil is getting so intolerable that it must cure itself. If a single shot will destroy a vessel that has cost half a million sterling, the nations must perforce leave off shooting, and then there will be no need of building. Mars is too grasping. The God of War will find some day that vaulting ambition doth o'erleap itself.

## ONIONS AND EPIDEMICS.

A correspondent of the *Scientific American* writes to that paper:—"In the spring of 1849 I was in charge of 100 men on shipboard, with the cholera among the men. We had onions, which a number of the men ate freely. Those who did so were soon attacked, and nearly all died. As soon as I had made this discovery their use was forbidden. After mature reflection I came to the conclusion that onions should never be eaten during the prevalence of epidemics, for the reason that they absorb the virus and communicate the disease, and that the proper use for them is sliced and placed in the sick room, and replaced with fresh ones every few hours. It is a well established fact that onions will extract the poison of snakes; this I personally know. Some kinds of mud will do the same. After maintaining the foregoing opinion for eighteen years, I have found the following well attested: Onions placed in the room where there is small-pox will blister, and decompose with great rapidity; not only so, but will prevent the spreading of the disease. I think as a disinfectant they have no equal, when properly used; but keep them out of the stomach."

## THE TEST OF PERFECT HEALTH.

DISEASES OVERMATCHED BY MEDICINE.

Sir Astrly Cooper said that no man ought to know he had a stomach. Unfortunately, however, the two extremes of luxury and privation, teach a considerable portion of mankind that they have *stomachs*, and very *troublesome ones too*. The diggers after gold in our gulches, the alluvial of our rivers and our dry plains, suffer much from disease of this organ, and of the liver and bowels. At present, however, there is much less fear of these complaints than formerly. All intelligent miners are aware that they can be readily combatted and cured by the timely administration of Holloway's celebrated Pills. One of the leading forms in which disease of the stomach and bowels exhibits itself in the interior—and we may add in the cities too—is a debilitating diarrhœa. Nothing that has ever been tried either in dysentery or diarrhœa in this country has uniformerly succeeded in curing those maladies except Holloway's Pills. It is stated that out of five hundred cases in which they were administered at the Ballarat Diggings, they did not fail in one. The ordinary medical treatment of diarrhœa appears to be wholly useless in this climate. Be this as it may, it is beyond cavil that the Pills arrest the complaint as certainly and almost as quickly as the brakes of a rail car arrest the revolution of its wheels. There are no ifs or buts about the matter; the cure is a foregone conclusion. Imagine what a God send *such a medicine* must be to the digger. Possessed of it he feels as if endowed with another right arm. The very fact that his chest or knapsack contains such a potent counterbuist to disease, keeps up his animal spirits and renders him less susceptible of unhealthy influences.

Miners bound to the more unhealthy diggings usually provide themselves with an extra supply of both the Pills and the Ointment, as they can always dispose of what they do not want at an enormous profit. It is said, and probably with truth, that the large importations of these medicines have seriously interfered with the profits of the drug merchants. Calomel and jalap, and all the purgatives, alteratives, sudorifics, anodynes, &c., are sadly at a discount in the market. Holloway's Pills and Ointment fill their places in public estimation, and more than fill them in beneficial effect.

## NEWS SUMMARY.

Jeff. Davies, and other prominent Southerners, are to spend this summer in Halifax.

The Prince of Wales distributed £400 to the charitable institutions of Dublin, during his visit to Ireland.

The penetrating properties of Parsons' Purgative Pills, search, cleanse and invigorate every portion of the human organism.

A lady has been expelled from one of the church choirs in New York, for repeatedly reading novels during service.

Two ladies, twin sisters, both married and living apart, recently died on the same day, in France, at the age of one hundred years.

Manganese on the East River, and Copper at Piedmont Valley are among the latest mineral discoveries in the County of Pictou.

It takes an amount equal to an assessment of one dollar on every inhabitant of New York City, to keep Central Park in order, and very few grudge the money.

The volunteer force in Canada, is warned to see to the efficiency of its arms, and the supply of ammunition on hand is to be promptly reported to headquarters.

The Sandwich Islands have been terribly convulsed by volcanic eruptions in the Island of Wawaii. Several lives were lost and much property destroyed thereby.

A man living in Cohoes, last week applied oil from the bowl of a tobacco-pipe to a burn on the lip of his little daughter, and the child died in convulsions twenty-four hours after.

Quacks and Nostrums have so multiplied within a few years that we feel some delicacy in giving our influence to, or in endorsing any of them; but if there is one thing in the whole catalogue more deserving than another we believe it is *Johnson's* Anodyne Liniment.

☞ $10,000 is said to be the sum for which J. H. Cameron will undertake to defend Whalen, the supposed assassin of Mr. McGee. Lawyers are the same everywhere; and a shade worse in Canada, if we may so speak.

Paper Bonnets are being manufactured in New York State, a good article of this make selling as low as *ten cents*. A very small amount of paper suffices to make a bonnet now-a-days.

Brazil has been driven to some extremity by the Paraguayan War. At the headquarters of the army at Tayi, $220 have been willingly paid for a ton of coal, and cannon balls are cheap at ten dollars each.

Mr. Racine, a banker of Quebec, who disappeared mysterously in 1861, is now said, on the confession of a woman in the Asylum du Bon Pasteur, to have been murdered by one Levallee, at present in the penitentiary.

James M. Grant a citizen of Bridgeport, Conn., who got a divorce from his wife the other day without her knowledge, is now suffering untold remorse, as he has no claim to a fortune of $80,000 just left her by a relative abroad.

There is a young man in Albion, Michigan, whose heart is on the right side. He has been examined by several of the most noted physicians of New York and Washington, who all agree that such is the case. This is the second case of the kind on record.

The Germans are flocking in myriads to the United States, probably fearing conscription for the army, if they remain at home. The *Etna*, on Wednesday evening, had 800 emigrants of this class. During the evening they made themselves quite happy on the wharf, forming rings and indulging with the greatest *abandon* in dancing, singing, and music.

Renewal of Reciprocity.—It is understood that negotiations are now going on with a view to securing the renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty. Mr. Brega is again at Ottawa, in relation to this question. Washington papers, formerly opposed to its renewal, now speak of it very approvingly, and the subject is to be brought up in Committee of Ways and Means there this week.—*Quebec Gazette.*

The Ottawa *Times* says that John O'Farrell, a well known Quebec lawyer, declares that there is no evidence to convict Whelan, and that, if he had an Upper Canada diploma, as barrister, he could clear him. The *Times* further says the Quebec Fenian sympathisers are about to raise a subscription for Whelan's defence, and funds to purchase O'Farrell's diploma.

Reciprocity.—The telegram from Ottawa in regard to a Reciprocity Treaty is quite satisfactory. The Dominion Government should not stand too greatly on its dignity in this matter. An exchange remarks:—

Indications are not wanting that public sentiment in the United States is becoming more favorable to a renewal of the Reciprocity treaty.

Arms for Fenian Use.—The *Hartford Courant* says: 'General John O'Neill, President of the Fenian Brotherhood, and part of his staff, visited Colt's armory on Saturday, and inspected the Gatling battery gun and Berdan rifle; and it is rumoured that he has effected a large contract for the above arms, and has also contracted for a number of thousand of Colts's revolvers, navy size, for use in Ireland and the Dominion.'

Some two hundred and fifty persons were confirmed, and received first communion yesterday, at the Cathedral from his Grace the Archbishop. In the course of an eloquent and instructive discourse, His Grace exhorted the boys to become members of the Juvenile Temperance Society, and to resolve to abstain from the use of spirituous liquors until their twenty-first year. After Vespers nearly all the boys took the pledge; and have thus from early youth resolved to avoid the source of so much evil.—*Hx. Express.*

Ever since women left off wearing bonnets, and substituted for them a bit of pasteboard, covered with some thin stuff on the top of the head, and fastened under the chin with a bit of ribbon or a strip of lace, that painful disease, neuralgia, has prevailed among them to an extent never known before. This fact, however, has no influence upon 'the fashion'; and we persume that for months to come cases of neuralgia will be as innumerable, as obstinate, and as profitable to physicians as they are at present.

The *Debats* thus sums up what has been doing lately in France:—The National Garde, Mobile has been organized; the whole of the army has been armed with Chassepots, which have no reason to dread a comparison with the Zundnolgewhr; the fortresses on the eastern frontier have been put into a thorough state of repair; and, in order to dispel any apprehension, it is announced that this year five camps are to be formed simultaneously. In short, France is preparedfor any contingency, and the Power which assumes an aggressive attitude will be very ill advised.

Some of the London papers are belittling General Napier, because he accomplished his glorious success without the loss of a single man. In this, one would think his real greatness consists, considering the almost insurmountable difficulties he had to overcome in his march to Magdala. This Napier is not a scion of the family which produced the Admirals and Generals of the last generation, and of which Lord Napier, the present Governor of Madras, is the head. He belongs to a comparatively obscure family of gentle blood in the Highlands, and is a Roman Catholic by religion.

The St. John, N.B., *Morning News* is famed for making crazy statements. In answer to a paragraph of the *Globe* it says "there is not the least probability of Nova Scotia or New Brunswick going out of the union." Nova Scotia *shall* go out of the union, and New Brunswick will be extremely silly if she does not follow. A rotten building cannot be long kept together; and Nova Scotia is not likely to submit long to the detestable rule of Canada. The answer of the imperial Government will decide whether Nova Scotia's secession from the Dominion will be peaceable or otherwise. —*Pictou Chronicle.*

Holloway's Pills.—The Great Need.—The blood is the life, and on its purity depends our health, if not our existence. These Pills thoroughly cleanse this vital fluid from all contaminations, and by that power strengthen and invigorate the whole system, healthily stimulate sluggish organs, repress over excited action, and establish order of circulation and secretion thoroughout every part of the body. The balsamic nature of Holloway's Pills commend them to the favour of debilitated and nervous constitutions, which they soon resuscitate. They sledge all obstructions, both in the bowels and elsewhere, and are, on that account, much sought after for promoting regularity of action in young females and delicate persons, who are naturally weak, or who from some cause have become so.

## Latest News by Telegraph.

### FROM EUROPE.

London, May 25.

The *Morning Post*, in an editorial to-day, says *that it is true as previously reported that Great* Britain has officially urged a general disarming. The *Government of Austria has also lent its good* offices in the same direction.

Consols 94¼ and 95 for money.

Berlin, May 23.

The Zollverein Diet has adjourned. The Session was closed by King William of Prussia, who made the customary speech, in which he said he hoped that the results of the Session would strengthen the sentiment of mutual trust between the people of the various States of the Confederation, destroy the prejudices which have existed in some portions of the country, and prove that the Germans though apart in some interests, were one people in warm brotherly feeling. The King closed by saying that the rights entrusted to him by Germany would be sacredly exercised as his highest rule of action.

London, May 24.

Efforts to prove *alibi* in the case of Barrett, the Clerkenwell conspirator, have failed, and his execution takes place at expiration of the week for which he was respited.

Telegrams from Sydney in anticipation of overland mail say Prince Alfred left for England in command of his ship, Steam Frigate Galatia. He was quite well.

Farrell, the attempted assassin of Prince Alfred, was executed 22nd April.

Despatches received from Gen. Napier to 5th inst. Portion of his troops reached coast and embarked for Bombay. Remainder of troops and stores being hastened forward to be shipped from Zoula as rapidly as possible, and evacuation of country be soon effected. Wounded are being well and convalescent. Troops generally in good health.

London, May 25, eve.

Despatches from the British expedition in Abyssinia report that the rear of the column on May 8th had reached Antalo, on return march to the sea coast. The rainy season had commenced, but the troops were daily arriving at Annesley Bay, and rapidly embarking for Bombay. No lives were lost by the British at Magdala.

The German Scientific expedition to the Magnetic pole has sailed on a voyage of exploration.

In the House of Commons this evening, the Home Secretary, Mr. Gathorn Hardy, in reply to some enquiries of Mr. John Bright, said the Government had decided to give the Clerkenwell conspirator, Barrett, a new trial

Vienna, May 25.

Imperial assent has been given to the public School and civil marriage Bills which recently passed the Reichsrath.

London, May 26, (eve).

Despatches have been received from Shanghai, which state that the Chinese rebels have laid seige to the important commercial town Tientsen, on Pehio River, about 70 miles from Pekin, and the port of that capital.

Michael Barret, *alias* Jackson, the Fenian, who was convicted of causing the Clerkenwell explosion, suffered the extreme penalty of the law, at Newgate, this forencon.

A Commission appointed by the Resolution of Parliament to investigate and report upon the condition of the laws of England bearing on the subject of naturalization, and the rights of expatriated subjects, has been formed, and is composed of the following members:—Lord Clarendon, President; Mr. Charles Adams, Secretary; and Kinslake, Philamore, Forrester and Harcourt.

Parliament is waiting for further despatches from the Abyssinian expedition, and the action on the vote of thanks to Gen. Napier, proposed by Mr. Disraeli is consequently deferred

Liverpool, May 27, p. m.

Telegrams have been received, giving particulars of a very formidable revolt which has just broken out in the province of Bosnia, Turkey. Troops are being rapidly pushed forward from Constantinople to quell the disorder.

A treaty for the mutual protection of naturalized citizens which the American Minister, Mr. Bancroft, has been negotiating with the Bavarian Government, has been signed.

Prussia has taken the initiative in the proposed general disarmament. By command of King William, a reduction is to be forthwith made in the land forces of the Kingdom.

Paris, May 26.

Marshall Neill, in an official report, declares the Chassepot Rifle the best fire-arm known. He also states that these guns are now being manufactured in Government arsenals, at the rate of sixteen hundred a day, and that all the infantry of the French army are now supplied with them.

### FROM THE STATES.

Washington, May 26, p. m.

The Senate this afternoon voted on the 2nd and 3rd articles of impeachment, and acquitted the President. Vote standing 19 to 35. The Court of Impeachment then adjourned *sine die.*

Washington, May 26.

It is believed that the second vote on impeachment, assigned for to-day, will be further postponed. The impeachment managers have been taking testimony to shew that bribery was used to influence the vote of Senators and procure the President's acquittal.

New York, May 26.

There is a rumor that the Fenians are concentrating near Ogdensburg, for a raid into Canada, and that our Government is taking measures to prevent them.

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# The Examiner.

Charlottetown, Jnne 1, 1868.


## AIR AND WATER.

Modern medical science, while it does not neglect to attempt to cure diseases, is chiefly occupied in discovering the best means of preventing them. Men, lay as well as professional, are fast losing their faith in drugs and other specifics, and are placing more and more trust in the health-preserving and curative virtues of simple food, pure air and pure water. We do not now write of hydropathists, vegetarians and other enthusiasts, in matters sanitary, though they all have much that is reasonable to say in their own behalf, but of thinking men and women generally. The idea is now becoming very prevalent that it is much more easy to keep a good constitution sound, and to restore one that is not hopelessly broken, by simple and natural means than by modes of treatment which no one believes to be according to nature, and which, moreover, are continually changing. However widely doctors may disagree about the nature of drugs and the time and ways of applying them, they all now with one voice bear testimony to the many and great virtues of pure air and pure water. Those who continue to breathe a vitiated atmosphere, or are compelled to drink foul water for any length of time, cannot remain in a healthy condition of body. Among such persons slight diseases assume aggravated and dangerous forms, and epidemics commit their most deadly ravages. It is in these days considered the first duty of city Governments to take such measures as will secure to those under their care the enjoyment of these two great preservatives of health, pure air and pure water. How is Charlottetown provided for in this respect? What has its Corporation done to supply its inhabitants with these necessaries of life? Very little, indeed. Thanks to those who laid off the town we have wide streets and public squares. These insure a free circulation of air, and these, we believe, have done much towards preserving the health of its inhabitants under circumstances otherwise most unfavorable. When we come to consider that Charlottetown has no system of drainage—that a town of nearly ten thousand inhabitants is provided with no regular means of carrying off the filth which must accumulate in such a place—the wonder is that it continues to be habitable. The state of things implied by this single fact is most disgusting and most alarming to contemplate. In summer, when the weather is hot and dry, the exhalations from the seething masses of decaying matter must poison the air, and when rain falls the quantity of water holding in solution the most foul and health-destroying matter that percolates through the porous soil into the streams that feed our wells, is absolutely sickening to think of. But, however disagreeable the ideas suggested, it behoves every one at all interested in the health of the inhabitants of Charlottetown seriously to consider this matter, and to exert himself to bring about a better state of things. The more unpleasant the investigation, and the more disgusting the conclusions to which the enquirer is forced, the greater the necessity of a thorough and a speedy reform. Our readers may depend upon it that the people of Charlottetown have not gone on, and cannot go on, inhaling such air and drinking such water as they have hitherto inhaled and drunk, and are now inhaling and drinking with impunity. They have, whether they have been conscious of the fact or not, been already punished for violating the laws of nature in this respect, and nothing is surer than that a greater punishment is still in store for them if they madly persist in their infringement. The City Authorities should do their utmost to provide a complete system of drainage and an unfailing supply of pure water for the inhabitants of the city. There is, we believe, no want of will on the part of the Corporation to do what is required in this direction, but they declare that they are too poor, and that the citizens are impatient of taxation. There is nothing easier we know than to find fault with public bodies, but it is well known that in these days such bodies move pretty much in the direction in which they are driven by public opinion, and if there are any serious shortcomings in their management of the affairs entrusted to their care, the remedy must be looked for, not from the bodies themselves, but from those who have the power of making and unmaking them. We doubt not if the City Authorities had a sound and healthy public opinion to support and direct them, but that effectual measures would soon be taken to supply the city with pure air and pure water. This reform, like every other reform, must come, not from authority, but from the sources of authority.

## THE HARD TIMES.

It is pretty generally confessed that times on this Island are, this Spring, unusually hard, but the causes of the hardness of the times is a matter of some dispute. We are not among those who believe that our farming population are more extravagant, more idle, or less skillful than they have hitherto been. In fact, we believe the contrary to be the case. We believe that at present our farmers work harder and till their land more skillfully than at any previous period. We are of opinion that they drink less rum and spend less money in fine clothes and handsome equipages than of late years. Many of them are making great exertions and great sacrifices to purchase the freehold of their farms, and others spend both time and money to bring their land into a better state of cultivation. Among the former the pressure of the times is very sensibly felt; with the latter we think the times are not hard at all. Very many of them have money both to spend and to spare. There are, however, a great many tillers of the soil on this Island who, from one cause and another, even in the most favorable season, can barely make both ends meet. New settlers are unavoidably of this class. Old settlers who do not know how to work their land, and who are so fixed in their prejudices that they will not learn from those who know better, belong to it, and those who are too idle and too dissipated to pursue a course of steady industry, are found in no inconsiderable numbers among them who compose it. In unfavorable seasons like the present, this class are great sufferers. In ordinary years many of them are obliged to purchase fodder and seed grain, and when, in times of scarcity, fodder is not to be procured and grain very dear, these poor people are in a miserable plight. It is from these that the cry of hard times chiefly comes. But we have heard from persons who have opportunities of knowing, that the distress, even among these people, is not so great as it has been described. Our settled conviction is, that notwithstanding the temporary distress which undoubtedly exists in some localities, the condition and prospects of the rural population of this Island were never better than they are at present. Many of them, by adopting a more enlightened system of farming than that practised twenty years ago, have found the road to comfort and prosperity, and thousands of others are slowly but surely following in their footsteps. All that our farmers need to become the most prosperous in British America are the blessing of Providence and an enlightened system of husbandry.

A New Post Office is very much required in Charlottetown. The building used at present for a Police Court and Post Office, besides being a most unsightly object, is, by no means, suited for the purposes to which it is put. In the first place a wooden building is a most unsafe depository for the whole correspondence of the Colony; in the next place the Old Court House is too small, damp, dusty and unwholesome for a Public Office. It can neither be properly warmed nor ventilated. Besides, it is by no means creditable to a thriving Colony like Prince Edward Island, that a most important part of its public business should be transacted in such a shabby, disreputable looking old den. The Government should secure a site for a New Post Office, and erect a suitable building on it, with the least possible delay. There are too many buildings on Queen Square already, but the corner where the Old Flour Market stood, is just the spot on which such a building as the requirements of the Colony and its chief city demand should be erected. The sooner the Old Court House is put out of sight the better, it owes the country nothing.

At about half-past nine o'clock on Wednesday evening the 26th inst., a fire broke out in Pownal Street, in a building belonging to Messrs. Michael Traynor and P. Coyle. Although the fire engines were on the spot with the least possible delay, the house in which the fire originated was burnt to the ground. The fire, however, was prevented from spreading to the adjoining houses. There was not, we believe much property besides the building destroyed, as there was sufficient time to save the most valuable of that which it contained. The want of an adequate supply of water was, as usual in cases of fire in this town, very much felt and very much deplored. The means of preserving the property, necessarily thrown into the street, were, in our opinion, very defective. Part of our Volunteer Force ought, we think, be made available for this purpose. There were many volunteers on the ground whose services were not required for extinguishing the flames, who might be very usefully employed in protecting the property of the unfortunate sufferers by the fire from the pilferers who are always found prowling about on such occasions. We have heard many rumours as to the cause of the fire, none of which we believe to be reliable. The houses we understand were well insured.

Presentation.—At the Levee held at Government House on Monday last, in honor of Her Majesty's birth day, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor presented Captain Augus Brown, of the ship *L. C. Owen*, then in port, with the splendid Sextant, awarded him by the British Government for rescuing the crew of the ship *Norwood*, which he fell in with in distress on his homeward trip last Autumn. In presenting the Sextant, His Excellency said:—

"The Sextant, which I hold in my hand, has been awarded to you by Her Majesty's Government in acknowledgement of your humanity to British seamen in distress. In a heavy gale of wind you fell in with the ship *Norwood*, waterlogged and in a sinking condition. For *thirty* hours you remained by that wreck, waiting an opportunity for taking off its crew. At great risk to your boat's crew, you at length, (happily without loss of life) succeeded in rescuing all hands. Her Majesty's Government has, for your conduct on this occasion, awarded you the highest reward which, I believe, is ever given for such services, and has forwarded to me this Sextant for presentation to you. It affords me very great pleasure to present it to you in the name of Her Majesty's Government; for you are never likely to forget that, on the first voyage in which you had charge of a ship, you were the means of saving the lives of twenty-five of your fellow-creatures. This Sextant is presented to you as a recognition—on the part of the Government of the Nation of which we form a part—of your conduct on that occasion, and will, I am sure, be ever regarded by you with the greatest interest in remembrance of that voyage."

To this address Capt. Brown made the follow ing reply:

"Your Excellency.—In rescuing the Captain and crew of the ship *Norwood*, I considered I was only doing my duty when beholding fellow-creatures in distress, and rescuing them from a watery grave. I have assisted several times, while mate of the *L. C. Owen*, with Captain Fraser, her Commander, in giving aid to shipwrecked sailors; and, actuated by feelings of humanity, I always felt as a British seaman, I was bound to do so, not knowing what time I might be placed in the same perilous situation I heartily thank Her Majesty's Government and Your Excellency for presenting me with this valuable Sextant, and I can assure Your Excellency, and, through you, the British Government, that I will always recollect, with feelings of extreme gratitude, this handsome presentation I that I may employ it hereafter with honor to the service to which I belong, and with credit to myself and employers, shall be my constant aim."

The inscription on the Sextant is as follows:

"Presented by Her Majesty's Government to Captain Angus Brown, of the Ship *L. C. Owen*, of Prince Edward Island, for his humanity to the master and crew of the ship *Norwood*, of Newport, on the 24th November, 1867.

The Firemen's procession on Monday evening last was a very pretty sight. A finer looking set of men it would be difficult to find in any part of the world. The object of their organization being to preserve life and property, the spectator cannot help feeling a respect for men who voluntarily and gratuitously devote a part of their leisure time in qualifying themselves to perform their important duties with efficiency. The discipline and handsome appearance of the companies reflect great credit on the men themselves and upon their officers.

Quite a number of persons were summoned before His Worship the Mayor on Saturday last, and fined for non-attendance at drill. The Law, as it stands, bears very hard upon poor men who have to earn their living by their daily labour, upon servants and employees generally. If any good were effected by the militia drill, the loss and inconvenience might be borne with patience, but by the manner in which the whole affair is managed, men lose their time for no earthly good, either to themselves or to the public. Still the men who defy or disregard the law act very foolishly. The law should be obeyed as long as it remains in force, but those who feel aggrieved by it should use every legitimate means to have it amended.

Carvell Bros. will have a sale of Flour and Meal, &c., every Monday, at 11 o'clock, during the Summer.

On the 28th of April, a young man, Mr. Robert Jenkins, son of J. Jenkins Esq., Shipbuilder, was drowned off Little River. The day being pleasant, he and his brother went to take a sail in a boat when suddenly a squall of wind struck the boat and upset her. Both the young men clung to the boat a long time, but before the help of another boat could be had, from the cold and fatigue, one poor fellow let go his hold of the boat, and in trying to swim with all his cloths on found he could not reach the shore, and giving up in despair he put his trust in the Lord and then sank. A boat reached the spot in time to save the other young man who was nearly perished, but in the course of some hours he revived. From all accounts we believe he is in a fair way completely to recover from the ill effects of the accident.

The deceased was a noble young man, brave and hardy, and much respected for his honesty and manliness by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. But his untimely end leaves a wife and three children, as well as a kind mother and father, brothers and sisters, with a large circle of friends and relatives, to mourn their irreparable loss. May the Lord be the comforter of his widow, the father of his children and the consoler of his parents.—Com.

[The above communication was inadvertently omitted last week.]

## CELEBRATION OF THE QUEEN'S BIRTH-DAY AT GEORGETOWN.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

*Dear Sir,*—The return of the Anniversary of the birth of our most gracious Sovereign, Queen Victoria, has been the signal for joyous demonstrations and expressions of devotion to her person, and to the British Throne, over the entire extent of that vast Empire on which the sun never sets, and of which it is our happiness and our high honor to form a part.

It was not, Mr Editor, in the power of the inhabitants of Georgetown, on last Monday, the 25th inst., to make any very imposing display, however warm our desires; but we, nevertheless, made an effort, with the small means at hand, to attest our appreciation of the occasion.

The Hon. Dr. Kaye, foremost in every good work of this kind, and whose beautiful grounds —as all who have visited Georgetown are aware —occupy the most commanding position in our neighborhood, very kindly placed at our disposal his cannon, which is an old warrior, and has, no doubt, defended the dignity of the British Flag in times less peaceful than the present. At 11 o'clock the No. 1 Company of the 1st Regt. of King's County and of Georgetown, assembled at the Drill Shed, and after having been proved, matched to the elevated green, in front of the residence of the Hon Dr. Kaye, where a Royal Salute was fired by the Artillery, and a *feu de joie* by the Infantry. After which the Company was put through the manual and review exercise by Serjeant-Major Campbell, of the Staff, and after having gone through various graceful movements, Dr. Kaye invited the members of the Company in, and regaled them at a most generously laden board, where they refreshed themselves liberally, after their military duties, and did not forget to drink a bumper to the long life, health, and happy reign of England's model Queen. The Company then fell in, and after performing some evolutions in good style, on the spacious green in front of the Doctor's residence, was halted and formed up as a Company in line when it was addressed by Major Norton in appropriate terms, who complimented the men on their prompt attendance and military behaviour; and expressed, on behalf of himself and the Company, their cordial thanks to the Hon. Dr. Kaye, for the use of his grounds and battery, and his own very generous and unexpected entertainment. Major Norton then proposed three cheers for their kind host, which were forthwith given, with an energy and emphasis which were evidently healthful.

The Company then marched back to the Drill Sh