

ance and advice, and to forward by steamer to Montreal those unable to pay for their passage.

In the hospitals, the number of sick continued to increase, being limited only by the amount of accommodation.

The accumulation of so vast a multitude of fever cases in one place generated a miasma so virulent and concentrated, that few who came within its poisonous atmosphere escaped. The clergy, medical men, hospital attendants, servants, and police, fell ill one after another. With respect to the clergymen, a judicious plan was adopted of retaining them for a week only, by this means many escaped; but, with medical men and attendants, this could not be done. The average period of time which a medical man withstood the disease was from 18 to 21 days; out of 26 employed during the season in the hospitals and visiting the vessels, two and myself alone escaped the fever, though otherwise severely affected in general health from breathing the foul air of the vessels and tents. I subjoin a Table (C.) exhibiting the number of clergymen, medical officers, hospital attendants, police, &c., who contracted fever and died during the season. I experienced much difficulty at one time in retaining any nurses or attendants, and on those days of the week, when an opportunity of leaving the island offered by the arrival of the steamer, great numbers of servants came forward and insisted upon their discharge. I found myself obliged firmly to refuse all such applications, unless the applicant could produce a substitute. It is needless to observe, that many so retained against their will neglected their duty to the sick, and sought by every means to provoke their dismissal. Those sent down to be engaged were, in many cases, the vilest and most profligate of both sexes, and were influenced by the most sordid motives.

On the 12th of June a new hospital, capable of accommodating 120 sick, was completed and occupied; two others of the same size and dimensions were finished by the end of the month. From the 19th to 26th of this month, much rain fell, with a high temperature and fog; this had a most pernicious effect upon the sick under canvas, though the tents were, in the first instance, floored with boards, after which iron bedsteads were substituted as soon as a supply of the same, was obtained from the barrack department, yet they afforded but insufficient protection from the weather when wet, and the mortality was, in consequence, much greater among the sick in tents than in the hospitals.

During the prevalence of this rain it was found impossible to wash or dry the vast quantities of hospital bedding.

The great number of sick in the early part of this month whom it was found impossible to land from want of accommodation rendered it necessary to employ two of the medical assistants to visit and prescribe for them on board.

Throughout the following months of July and August passenger vessels continued to arrive in great numbers, each more sickly than the other. The calm, sultry weather of these two months increased the mortality and sickness on board to an appalling extent, some vessels having lost one-fourth, and others one-third of their passengers, before arriving at the quarantine station. Of these I may cite the ship "Virginus," from Liverpool; this vessel left with 476 passengers, of whom 158 died before arrival at Grosse Isle, including the master, mate, and nine of the crew. It was with difficulty the few remaining hands could, with the aid of the passengers, moor the ship and furl the sails. Three days after her arrival there remained of the ship's company only the second mate, one seaman, and a boy, able to do duty; all others were either dead or ill in hospital. Two days after the arrival of this ill-fated ship, the barque "Naomi" arrived, having left Liverpool with 334 passengers, of whom 110 died on the passage, together with several of the crew. The master was just recovering from fever, on his arrival. The barque "Sir Henry Pottinger" arrived about this time from Cork, which port she had left with one cabin and 399 steerage passengers, of whom 106 died, including the master's son and several of the crew. The passengers of the two first of these vessels were sent out at the expense and from the estates of the late Major Mahon, in county Tyrone, and the survivors were, without exception, the most wretched, sickly, miserable beings I ever witnessed.

I would cite, as a further instance of the extent to which sickness and mortality prevailed about this time, the case of five vessels, viz., the "Sarah," "Erin's Queen," "Triton," from Liverpool, and "Jessie" and "Avon" from Cork. These vessels left their respective ports with an aggregate of 2235 passengers, exclusive of infants under 12 months; of this number 239 died at sea before arriving at Grosse Isle. A great number were sent to hospital, and the apparently healthy were landed at the tents where those who fell ill were passed over to hospital. After a detention of 13 days the whole number able to leave the island was 915, and of this comparative small number I am convinced a great proportion would fall ill at various places on their route.

Those who were landed at the tents in comparative good health, fell ill from the exciting causes of change of air and diet, and many died suddenly before they could be transferred to the hospitals.

By the end of August, however, long ranges of sheds had been erected, with berth-places, capable of lodging 3500 people, at the east end of the island. These buildings enabled us to dispense with all the tents.

The completion of five new hospitals, in addition to the three alluded to, enabled us to remove all the sick from the marquees and bell tents, and to restore the churches to their former use. The sickness and mortality was sensibly diminished from this period. Notwithstanding, from this to the final closing of the establishment, on the 3rd of November, every vessel coming with passengers from Liverpool, Cork, Dublin, Sligo, or other ports