

these, have been successfully met in the writings of Messrs Hogan, Lillio Morris and Hope, all of which essays have, I understand, been circulated extensively in Europe, by order of our Government. But there is one difficulty urged by the astute Boston man which, besides being novel, is intrinsically serious enough to deserve notice. It reads thus:—

"Look at the French in that province: what are they? Are they a splendid race? They are extremely degenerated from their ancestors in flesh, in bone, in muscle, in sinew, and in everything that appertains to the mind. The French of Canada are no more to the French of France than Scotch ponies are to English horses. What is the cause of this lamentable difference? It is found in the hard climate and infertile soil of the region where a cruel fate has left them. The people of Ireland—the healthiest people to be found—should consider this startling fact. As sure as they come to Canada, so sure will they fall miserably away, as the French have done."

To a Canadian eye this is simply "startling" fiction, not fact: inasmuch, however, as it was not written for Canada, but to effect a mischievous purpose elsewhere, it may be as well to shew that not only is it not true that Europeans and their descendants suffer physical deterioration from the climate of Canada, but that such an assumption is directly opposed to the truth. This proof we have in a clear and convenient form in a lecture "on the climate of Canada in its relation to life and health," delivered by Doctor Hingston, on the 7th March, 1861, before the "Montreal Natural History Society," in which the learned Doctor would seem to have anticipated the grave statements of the *Pilot*. In the *Transcript's* reports I find that after a series of most interesting remarks on the general question of climatology:—

"He then went on to detail a number of experiments (too long for insertion here) in which he had been assisted by the Medical Students at McGill University, and the French Medical School, to test the influence which the climate of this country had exerted upon Europeans. The result was favorable to Canada. They who had been longest resident in, and in consequence most thoroughly acclimatized, had advanced most in stature, strength, and weight. The British Canadian was of the same height, weighed 5 lbs. more, and possessed muscular strength, at most amounting to 20 lbs. over his European cousins. The French had advanced far more. They were an inch taller than their French progenitors, weighing 8 lbs. more, and had a superiority of strength of nearly 50 lbs. Indeed, in the latter respect he was somewhat ahead of the British, while he was much inferior in the old country—a circumstance attributable to more complete acclimatization."

It is further reported that—

"The lecturer next entered largely into minute statistics, showing the relative longevity in Canada compared with other portions of the globe, and read from tables on the subject, which, we believe, he has been laboring upon for years past."

And towards the close of the report the Doctor solemnly avers:—

"More than once during my short professional career I have endeavoured to map out one single disease, or form of disease, indigenous to this country, and have failed. As a residence for invalids, Canada presents many important advantages, and many thousands of the American people annually take advantage of its climate."

It thus appears from the evidence, based upon "minute statistics," of a learned and most painstaking professional man, that the advice and information addressed by the Boston *Pilot* to the people of the old world on a question so material to them and their posterity as emigration, is not based upon truth, and is only calculated to mislead. The editor, who doubtless wrote in good faith, should therefore re-examine his conclusions, and endeavor to do early justice in the premises.

—The following short notice on the late David Kinnear was left out of our last number by mistake:—Mr. Kinnear died on the 20th of November, after a long illness. Mr. Kinnear was born in Edinburgh, in 1807, and was therefore in his 55th year. He was the son of Mr. Kinnear, the celebrated Scottish banker, and studied for the Scottish bar, to which he was admitted as a member, but never followed the profession. In his youth, we believe, he was acquainted with many of the literary celebrities who shone at the beginning of the present century, particularly with Sir Walter Scott, Mr. John Murray (the publisher), and Hogg (the Ettrick Shepherd.) Mr. Kinnear came to this country about 25 years ago, and bought a farm in the Eastern townships. During the rebellion he was appointed a stipendiary magistrate in that part of the country, and lived for some years in Napierville and Freighsburg. Coming to this city, he edited for some time the *Montreal Gazette*; and from this journal he went to the *Montreal Herald*, with which he has been connected for about 18 years. His earlier political opinions were Conservative; but latterly they inclined to the Liberal side, and he acted with the party which has been called "Rouge." He belonged to the Church of England up to the time of his death. He has left behind him a wife and a large family. Mr. Kinnear was a man of reading, as well as an acquaintance with the world, and his stock of information was large,—a fact which his writings exhibited. His loss will be regretted by many friends whom he has left behind him in this city and the Eastern townships. There have been times at which political controversy may have been bitter between him and us—perhaps too bitter; but this we can say, that never at any time when political strife or the

rage of party waxed hottest, were the private relations of friendship between him and the present conductors of this journal ever interrupted. Mr. Kinnear did not, as we have tried not to do, on any occasion sink the character of gentleman in the political partizan; and his fair name was not soiled by any dishonour. His grave is too early found, and none but kindly memories of ours will follow our brother journalist there.—*Montreal Gazette*.

—Dr. Charles Frémont, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the Laval University, died on board of the *Beheman* on his return from Europe. Dr. Frémont was a medical man of high attainments, an indefatigable laborer in the field of science and philanthropy, and his pious and benevolent dispositions had secured to him universal esteem throughout Lower Canada. Besides his labors in connection with the University, he took an active part in the establishment of the Lunatic Asylum at Beauport,—an institution which, though aided by the Province, was founded, at great risk, as a private enterprise, by Drs. Douglas, Morrin and Frémont. The deceased had been also for many years Visiting Physician to the Quebec gaol, and held several important public trusts.

—The *Canadien* is informed that a donation of 3000 francs has just been made by the French Emperor to the poor Acadians of Rustico, Prince Edward Island. It had been preceded some time since by a similar donation of 1000 francs. The money has been sent through the agency of the French Consul-general, the Baron Gaudrée-Boileau. Part of these Acadians were transferred last summer to Matapédia, on the lower St. Lawrence, through the zeal of the Hon. Mr. Tessier; and it is intended to remove the whole of them from Prince Edward Island to Canada.—*Witness*.

—A letter from Rimouski informs the *Canadien* that the lower St. Lawrence has been visited lately by an extraordinary affluence of birds, —ducks, wild geese, and other game. They were left undisturbed, on account of the sportsmen being scarce in that region. They took their departure farther south at the approach of the December snow-storms. They have been succeeded by an unprecedented influx of Arctic birds, seldom, if ever, seen in the Province. These are white partridges and white owls. The former are now as abundant at Rimouski, Ste. Flavie, St. Fabien du Bic, &c, as pigeons are in the spring. They keep together in large flocks, and are easily approached and killed. The white owls are the terror of the smaller birds, which have disappeared at their approach. The farmers have set traps for them, and destroyed a great number.—*ib.*

—Cyrus W. Field, Esq., returns from England with the most encouraging intelligence of the prospects of the new Atlantic telegraph. The British nation is thoroughly alive to the innumerable advantages and the pecuniary profit of this grand scheme. On the day before Mr. Field left England the new prospectus of the Atlantic Telegraph Company was issued. It contains some interesting facts not hitherto published on this side of the ocean. With regard to the practicability of submarine cables (which few persons will be likely to question at this late day), it is stated that Messrs. Glass, Elliott & Co., the contractors for the new cable, have laid 4,000 miles in thirty lines, all of which are in working order, with the single exception of that between Liverpool and Holy-head, which, being in shallow water, was dragged and broken by the anchor of the "Royal Charter," in 1859, and has since been taken up altogether. These contractors feel so much confidence in the enterprise that they undertake to subscribe and pay up in cash to the present capital of £600,000 the sum of £25,000. They also agree to allow the company to pay weekly for the materials used, and the labor employed, charging no profit for their work thereon until the cable is properly laid and efficiently worked for one month, when the first instalment of profit is to be paid to them.—*Montreal Gazette*.

"The terms of subscription to the "Journal de l'Instruction Publique," edited by the Superintendent of Education and Mr. Auguste Béhand, will be five shillings per annum, and to the "Lower Canada Journal of Education," edited by the Superintendent of Education and Mr. J. J. Phelan, also five shillings per annum.

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