

CANADA.

The Wellington Emigration Society sent out from England 1,062 persons, who received a sum of 10s. each adult on landing here, in addition to a free passage to Western Canada: 33 lads were from the London Reformatory School, and 62 persons were sent out by their parishes. From Ireland there were 379 persons; viz., 13 males, 293 females, and 73 children, all from poor law unions; they received from 10s. to 25 s. sterling each on landing here.

Those from the Continent number 49 men, 51 women, and 94 children. 81 persons received money on landing here, amounting to 72s. 15s., and 133 received a free passage only.

Shipwreck.

I have to report but two cases of disaster at sea occurring to emigrant vessels bound to this port during the past season; viz., the ship "Martin Luther," which sailed from Liverpool on the 9th of April, with 499 passengers, after having been a few days at sea, was dismasted in the Channel, and carried into Plymouth, where she refitted, and sailed again on the 28th of May. The second case was that of the ship "St. Clair," which sailed from Tralee on the 11th of June with 227 passengers, and, having sprung a leak, was abandoned at sea. Her passengers were rescued by the "Ariel," of Bristol, and taken into Cork, where they were provided with a passage by the "Maria," and arrived here on the 3d of September, in good health. It is satisfactory to find, that in both these cases, although the passengers were exposed to much suffering and hardship, there was no loss of life.

Steamer "Montreal."

Although the disasters at sea have fortunately been attended with no loss of life, I regret to have to refer to a most extensive disaster which occurred on the River St. Lawrence, within a few miles of this city.

The steamer "Montreal," which formed one of a line between Quebec and Montreal, left her wharf here on the afternoon of the 26th of June, with from 300 to 400 souls on board. She took fire shortly after, and was totally consumed, after having been run aground on a shoal some distance from the shore.

The loss of life never can be correctly ascertained, but 254 bodies in the whole were recovered.

The passengers by this ill-fated vessel were composed chiefly of the emigrants by the ship "Jno. Mackenzie," from Glasgow, which vessel had arrived the previous evening with 338 souls. Of this number, 69 left the next morning by railway, and 11 remained in this city; 258 are consequently supposed to have embarked on board the "Montreal," of which number but 67 are ascertained to have been saved, leaving 191 persons missing. Those saved suffered the entire loss of such of their baggage and property as was not carried on their persons.

There has been much humane attention directed to the survivors of this catastrophe, and assistance has been presented by the cities of Quebec, Montreal and Toronto, as well as by other places. The St. Andrew's Society of Montreal have taken a most active and efficient course for the relief of the Scotch emigrants, and have been zealously seconded by the sister society of Quebec. These institutions have offered a warm sympathy for the surviving dismembered families, by contributing largely towards making good their losses of property, and by enabling such as desired it to return to their relations, or to proceed to their original destination.

The circumstances of this disaster underwent at the time a searching inquest, which resulted in a verdict of "manslaughter" against the captain, owner, pilot and mate of the vessel.

The owner has evaded arrest, but the master is now in gaol, and the pilot and mate are under bail, all awaiting their trial.

Passenger Act.

In the course of the season complaints were made by the passengers of five vessels for infringement of the regulations of the Passenger Act. In three cases in which I found it necessary to institute legal proceedings, convictions were obtained; and in two other cases compensation was made to the satisfaction of the passengers.

The first case was against Captain Craig, of the steamer "United Service," from London, for short issue of water. The vessel having proceeded to Montreal, the information, with the necessary instructions, were transmitted to the agent in that city, and, on the complaint being heard, the master was fined in a penalty of 50 l. currency, with costs.

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