

destructive storm for many years in this neighborhood. 27th, distant thunder in morning. 28th, rain from 3.30 to 5 a.m., with much loud thunder and vivid lightning; again from 2 to 3 p.m. heavy rain with distant thunder. Rain also on 1st, 2nd, 13th, 29th, 31st. Spring crops inferior in consequence of want of rain in June, July and August.

CORNWALL.—On 9th, rainbow at 2.30 p.m. 10th, at 1 p.m., surface current NW, velocity 8, clouds moving to SE rapid, and to N slow. Lightning, thunder and rain about midnight of 18th. On 28th, lightning. 30th, hail. Storms of wind on 19th and 31st. Frost in surrounding country, but not in town on 31st. Rain on 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 13th, 16th, 17th, 19th, 24th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st. Aurora very brilliant on 6th, 21st, 26th, 30th.

GODERICH.—On 8th, lightning. 9th, thunder. 13th and 21st, a dark segment from NE to NW, bordered with an arch of light, no streamers. 17th, about 8 p.m., sudden squall; wind WSW, velocity 7, with continuous sheet lightning in H, N, NW, NE. 18th, (Sunday), at 4 p.m., squall, wind 5, with heavy rain and thunder. 28th, at 1 p.m., counter currents of air, N and S. 29th, thunder. Storms of wind 23rd and 28th. Fog on 22nd. Rain on 6th, 9th, 13th, 18th, 23rd, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st.

HAMILTON.—On 1st, 2nd and 3rd, lightning with thunder and rain. 6th, lightning with thunder. 17th and 26th, lightning. 27th, thunder. 29th, rainbow at 6.30 p.m. Storms of wind on 1st, 12th, 13th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 19th, 24th, 27th, 31st. Rain on 1st, 2nd, 5th, 6th, 8th, 23rd, 28th, 29th, 31st. Month very dry, not a quarter as much rain as in August 1866. Grass and trees suffered much.

PEMBROKE.—On 18th and 28th, lightning, thunder, hail and rain. Rainbows on 18th and 30th. Shooting star on 30th, NE, altitude 30°. Storms of wind on 2nd, 10th, 18th, 24th, 30th. Fogs on 7th, 9th, 12th, 27th. Rain on 2nd, 9th, 12th, 13th, 18th, 23rd, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st.

PETERBOROUGH.—On 1st, silent lightning at West horizon. 6th, lightning at SEH in evening. 7th, falling star observed to descend perpendicularly from SW part of Z, flashing three times. 8th, thunder. 9th, thunder, lightning and rain in evening. 10th, same at 3 a.m. 17th, heavy thunder cloud along WH at 9 p.m., with zig-zag lightning occasionally flashing from it; cloud passed to northward. 18th, two thunder storms; one at 12.15 a.m., accompanied by a slight fall of hail in the town—the other at 8.5 p.m.; during this latter shower no hail fell near the town, but a very heavy fall of unusually large hailstones passed westerly, along a strip of country about two miles in width, the southern limit thereof being about three miles N of the town; a reliable farmer in Douro represented some of the hailstones as being 1½ inches in diameter; all the windows on the western aspect more or less shattered, and all outstanding crops within the influence of the fall demolished; turnips, squashes, apples, &c., were battered and broken. 21st, bright auroral light; fog. 30th, hoar frost in the country reported. 31st, first hoar frost observed; heavy fog. Falling stars observed 28th and 29th. Rain on 1st, 2nd, 5th, 9th, 10th, 13th, 18th, 23rd, 27th, 28th, 29th, 31st.

STRATFORD.—On 1st, lightning, thunder and rain. 6th, thunder. 7th, lightning with thunder. 8th, thunder with rain; rainbow at 4 p.m. 9th, lightning with thunder. 17th, thunder in NW—E from 8 to 10 p.m., with very vivid and frequent lightning. 18th, storm of wind. 23rd, storm of lightning, thunder, hail and rain from 6.30 to 7.30 p.m. Fogs on 3rd, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 14th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 26th, 27th. Frost on 31st. Rain on 1st, 7th, 8th, 13th, 19th, 23rd, 27th, 28th, 29th, 31st.

ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK.—N. Lat. 45°.17. W. Long. 66°.4. Height above sea, 135 feet. We extract the following from a report sent by an observer at this point:—For the month of August, the corrected mean readings of *Barometer*, were, at 8 a.m., 29.990, at 2 p.m., 29.981, at 10 p.m., 29.985, means 29.985. Highest, 30.342 on 26th; lowest, 29.695 on 18th. Range .647. *Temperature*: mean at 6 a.m., 58°.10, 10 a.m., 64°.10, 2 p.m., 65°.67, 6 p.m., 61°.80, 10 p.m., 60°.3. Highest, 75° on 21st; lowest, 50° on 1st. Range 25°. Greatest daily range 20° on 1st. Warmest day, 16th, mean 67°; coldest, 31st, mean 56°. *Tension of Vapour*: mean, at 8 a.m., .482, 2 p.m., .505, 10 p.m., .472, mean 486. *Humidity*: mean at 8 a.m., 88, 2 p.m., 81, 10 p.m., 91, mean 87. *Wind*: E to SW 28 days, and W to NE 3 days; estimated force for 8 a.m., 1.0, 2 p.m., 1.4, 10 p.m., 0.8. *Rain*: 7 days and 8 nights, total fall 6.845. The month was warmer, wetter and foggier than any corresponding one for some years past. August had a very unusual number of foggy days and nights; but yet its mean clouding did not exceed the average, though slightly more than in 1866. At 2 p.m. 9 days were clear and 15 wholly clouded, and at 10 p.m. 7 nights were clear and 19 wholly clouded. For the same hours 7 days and 12 nights were foggy; against 1 day and 3 nights last year and an average of 4.6 and 7.4. About midnight of the 2nd St. John was visited by a short but sudden and severe gale from the S and SW, accompanied with very heavy rain. This storm appeared to come from the Atlantic, and was felt in 11 counties of this and the adjoining Provinces of Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, and did more or less damage in them all. In some places the loss of property was said to be unprecedentedly great, but in this neighborhood it was confined to the blowing down of a few trees and fences only.

VIII. Miscellaneous Readings.

1. THE FAMILY MEETING.

We are all here!
Father, Mother,

And the Brothers,
All who hold each other dear;
Each chair is filled, we're all at home;
To-night let no cold stranger come;
It is not often thus around
Our old familiar hearth we're found;
Bless then the meeting and the spot,
For once be every care forgot;
Let gentle peace assert her power,
And kind affection rule the hour;
We're all—all here.

We're not all here,
Some are away—the dead ones dear!
Who thronged with us the ancient hearth,
And gave the hour to guileless mirth;
Fate with a stern, relentless hand;
Some like the night-flash passed away,
And some sank lingering day by day;
The quiet grave yard—some lie there,
And cruel ocean has his share—
We're not all here!

We are all here!
Even they—the dead—though dead, so dear.
Fond memory to her duty true,
Brings back their faded forms to view;
How life-like through the mist of years,
Each well remembered face appears;
We see them as in times long past.
We hear their words, their smiles behold,
They're round us as they were of old—
We are all here!

We are all here!
Father, Mother,
Sister, Brother,
Those we love with love so dear—
This may not long of us be said;
Soon must we join the gathered dead,
And by the hearth we now sit round,
Some other circle will be found;
O then that wisdom may we know,
That yields a life of peace below;
So in the world to follow this,
May each repeat, in words of bliss,
We're all—all here!

2. THE HOME OF CHILDHOOD.

"Do you remember all the sunny places
Where in bright days long passed we played together?
Do you remember all the old home faces
That gathered round the hearth in winter weather?
Do you remember all the happy meetings
In summer evenings round the open door?
Kind looks, kind hearts, kind words and tender greetings,
And clasping hands whose pulses beat no more,
Do you remember them?"

The home of childhood—how many hallowed associations cluster around those words; what pleasing reminiscences are awakened; what deep emotions are kindled at their mention. Forget "the old home faces?" Never. As one turns his thoughts toward the home of his early days, he seems to behold them again. Those loved forms flit before him as in the visions of his childhood. Father, mother, brother and sister are seated again around the old domestic hearth as in the days of yore. And a thousand expressions of parental kindness and fraternal love are called to mind with all the freshness of yesterday.

And the companions of one's childhood; the youthful, merry band with whom in thoughtless mirth, one laughed and sang and frolicked and chased the hours away—they live again in memory's eye, and their notes of glee still linger upon memory's ear. Those "kind looks, kind hearts, kind words and tender greetings" have left an impression that time will never efface.

And then the scenes of those early days when one played among the brooks, the butterflies, the birds and the flowers,—

"Remember all the sunny places
Where in bright days long past we played together?"

Yes, indeed. And how wondrously beautiful they appear as graven upon memory's tablet. Aye,

"How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood,
When fond recollections present them to view,