

air and to take hard exercise ; these people leave their rural homes, their hill tops and quiet vallies to travel in the first instance down to the sea port town, where they are often detained days, and sometimes weeks, in miserable crowded lodgings awaiting the sailing of the vessel. And when once on board they are placed in circumstances, as regards fresh air and food, very different from what they had hitherto been accustomed to. They are packed in the hold of the vessel, where ventilation under the most favourable circumstances is very imperfect ; a means of introducing fresh air into the 'tween decks of a ship has yet to be discovered, and the little air, that ever does find its way by the open hatches, is in rough weather diminished by the necessity of partially or wholly closing these only openings. It is not to be wondered then that such diseases as originate in imperfect ventilation, change of diet and want of exercise should be rife in Emigrant vessels, or that the vitiated air combined with mental anxiety and dread at the novel scenes passing around them on the sea voyage should have a depressing effect upon the passengers and make them neglect cleanliness and that such neglect should be followed by disease which, when once it begins in the tween decks of a passenger vessel, goes on increasing until its living cargo can be emptied out.

The emigration to Canada has, for many years and up to within a recent period, averaged from 25,000 to 30,000 per annum, and there is every reason to believe that it will again reach that number. It has been said by those who ought to know better that passengers now arrive by the steamers and not sailing vessels ; and, though it is well known that steerage passengers do arrive and in numbers by the Mail and