

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY,  
AUGUST 17, 1872.

SUNDAY,	Aug. 11.— <i>Eleventh Sunday after Trinity.</i> Battle of Lake Champlain, 1814.
MONDAY,	" 12.—Oswego captured by Montcalm, 1756. Southey born, 1774. H. R. H. Prince Edward arrived at Quebec, 1791.
TUESDAY,	" 13.—Jeremy Taylor died, 1667. Sir P. Maitland, Governor of Upper Canada, 1818.
WEDNESDAY,	" 14.—William IV. (Prince William Henry,) landed at Quebec, 1757. Battle of Fort Erie, 1814. Dean Buckland died, 1856.
THURSDAY,	" 15.—Napoleon Buonaparte born, 1769. Sir Walter Scott born, 1771.
FRIDAY,	" 16.—Capitulation of Detroit, 1812. Battle of the Tchernaya, 1855.
SATURDAY,	" 17.—Frederick the Great died, 1786. Foundation of Nelson's Monument, Montreal, laid, 1802.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS taken at 26 Beaver Hall, Montreal, by THOS. D. KING, for the week ending Aug. 4th, 1872.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
July 29	61	64	58	59	30.03	N E	Rain.
30	65	73	57	54	30.06	N	Clear.
31	65	74	56	52	30.00	N W	Clear.
Aug. 1	66	76	56	52	30.06	Var.	Clear.
2	69	76	56	52	29.99	N E	Rain.
3	63	70	59	54	30.02	N E	Cloudy.
4	66	78	56	51	30.22	Var.	Clear.
MEAN	65.0	72.7	57.0	56.3	30.06		

Extreme Range of Temperature, 29° of Humidity, 37° of Barometer, 29°.

Amount of Rain Fall, 0.33 inches, equivalent to 11.88 gallons of water per acre.

Column 1.—Mean Temperature of the day—7 A. M., 2 P. M., 9 P. M. Very nearly the true Mean, as it would be obtained by observation made every hour of the day and night.

2.—Maximum Temperature of the day.

3.—Minimum Temperature of the previous night.

4.—Mean Relative Humidity from hourly observations between 7 A. M. and 9 P. M.

5.—Mean height of the Barometer corrected to sea-level.

6.—General direction of the Wind.

7.—State of the Weather.

MEMORANDA.—The decimal parts of a degree are rejected for simplification. If thermometer more than half a degree, say 10.7, it is rendered 10; if less than half a degree, say 10.3, it is rendered 10°. The mean is scarcely affected by the rejection of the decimal or fractional parts of a degree.

The Thermometers are placed where there is a free circulation of air and are thoroughly protected against their own radiation to the sky, and against the light reflected by neighbouring objects such as buildings, the ground itself, and sheltered from the rain and snow. The Relative Humidity of the air—saturation being 100—is obtained by means of a Mason's hygrometer, which consists of two precisely similar thermometers, mounted at a short distance from each other, the bulb of one of them being covered with muslin which is kept moist by means of a cotton wick leading from a vessel of water. The evaporation which takes place from the moistened bulb produces a depression of temperature, so that this thermometer reads lower than the other by an amount which increases with the dryness of the air. The great facility of observation afforded with this instrument has brought it into general use to the practical exclusion of other forms of hygrometer. As the theoretical relation between the dew-point of the air is rather complex and can scarcely be said to be known with certainty, it is usual to effect the reduction by means of tables which have been empirically constructed by comparison with the indications of a dew-point instrument. The tables employed are those constructed by A. Guyot and published by the Smithsonian Institution, Washington.

When the air is very dry and at a temperature between 60 and 80 the relative humidity would be represented by 30 to 40; when the air is very moist from 80 to 100.

## OUR NEXT NUMBER.

The next number of the

## "ILLUSTRATED NEWS"

will contain illustrations on the following subjects:

THE PRESENTATION TO LADY MACDONALD,  
THE CANADIAN TEAM AT WIMBLEDON,

(Double-page illustration.)

THE DINNER AT TORONTO TO WM. JOHNSTON,  
ESQ., M. P.

Country dealers should send in their orders at  
once to secure early attention.

## THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1872.

THE question of infant mortality has for many years occupied the utmost attention of both scientific men and philanthropists, but as yet no satisfactory solution thereto has been arrived at. Despite the researches of the professional man, and the love-inspired labours of the well-wisher to his kind, the work of destruction among the ranks of the infantile portion of the community continues unchecked and unabated. Of late years it has assumed gigantic proportions. Not that the efforts already made to discover the causes to which this mortality is due have been in vain, for more than one of these have been laid bare. But it is not enough merely to know the cause of disorder. That, once known, should be at once checked. This is where lies the true secret of the increasing death-rate among children. Science, unaided by Law, is powerless to grapple with so great an evil, and it is more to our legislators than to any one else that we look for a remedy. Stringent laws regulating the sale of food and of poisons are what we require. The efforts of our sanitary inspectors should be further aided by the appointment of competent officers, whose business it should be to examine and analyse suspicious articles of food and medicine, many of which are notoriously adulterated and falsified, but nevertheless meet with a ready and continuous sale. Until some such steps as these shall have been taken, we need look for no diminution in the fearful decimation of the little ones.

To illustrate the necessity for some such reforms as these, we shall merely take two of the prevalent causes of mortality among children, and point out how they

might be in great part, if not entirely, done away with. Both of these causes are well known, and only need active legislation to suppress them. A large amount of disease is unquestionably caused by the consumption of bad food. That is a point that has already received much attention, but one phase of it, viz., that affecting infants, seems to have been almost entirely lost sight of. If ever children suffered for the sins of their parents, they do so in the hot summer days. Mothers too often forget that the lives of their babes depend upon their own health, and that their own diet affects the quality of the nourishment they supply to their infants. And yet in the face of this self-evident fact, and in spite of warning and expostulation, women who are rearing children will often persist in indulging in unwholesome food, injuring themselves thereby and poisoning the already scanty nourishment they yield to their offspring. Among the poor classes this practice is the same everywhere—in Canada, as in England and in the tropics. Every one acquainted with the habits of the lower-class French Canadians is aware of the avidity with which they devour, not only green fruit and over-ripe vegetables, but meat, and notably pork, which is verging on a state of decomposition. The fact that such unwholesome articles of food are attainable does not speak much for the efficacy of the present system of inspection. But attainable they are, and openly so. And what is the result? The infant mortality among the French Canadians in Montreal is something like five times as great as the same rate among the English-speaking population of the city. To do away with this fruitful cause of evil we need a system of vigilant supervision over vendors of all kinds of food. Anyone may satisfy himself of the value of the present system by taking a stroll through the markets, where bad meat, and more especially rotten vegetables and fruit will be seen on every side openly exposed for sale. Let us have an efficient law regulating the sale of food, and inflicting heavy penalties—by fine and imprisonment—upon transgressors, and we shall soon see a decrease in the death-rate during the summer months.

The other evil to which we would refer does not confine its operations to any particular time or season. It works silently and surely from one year's end to another, among all ranks and ages. Both adults and infants contribute to swell the list of its victims, though the former class lose but one of their number to the thousand that fall yearly among the latter. And yet, strange to say, special legislation protects the adult, while the helpless infant is left entirely uncared for. The evil we allude to is the habitual careless use of powerful drugs. From its effects we are to an extent protected by a measure forbidding, under a penalty of twenty dollars, the sale of certain dangerous drugs and poisons, except on the production of an order from a medical man. The law itself is a good one, though it is not as well observed as it might be. But it should be still further extended so as to include in the list of forbidden articles all preparations containing any of the specified poisons. There are scores of so-called Patent Preparations vended throughout the country,—of the effects of which both buyers and sellers are utterly ignorant—which contain in their composition large quantities of dangerous drugs. None of these meet with a larger sale than the soothing drinks and syrups for children, many of which contain a large proportion of opium or other soporifics. The raw article, the opium, is only allowed to be sold under certain conditions, while no restrictions whatever are laid upon the sale of the preparation, which is the deadliest article of the two, inasmuch as its ingredients are unknown. Opium is opium the world over; its properties are generally understood, and its exhibition is always—except in the case of habitual opium takers—attended by more or less fear for its effects. The soothing drink, on the other hand, is given to children in all confidence; its deadly effects are unknown, and too often a fractious child is dosed so heavily that it dies from the effects of the drug-ging. Many a bereaved mother has innocently contributed to the death of her infant by her ignorance of the composition and properties of the potion with which she hoped—and succeeded too well—to ease its sufferings. In the United States it is computed that 150,000 children die in the year from the effects of overdosing with soothing drinks. This is no random statement. The figures are those given by the *American Journal of Pharmacy*, a standard authority on such matters. In Canada the use of these sedatives is almost universal, and we have no doubt that the mortality due to their indiscriminate use is, proportionately, quite as high as in the States.

We do not wish it to be understood that it is our intention to decry preparations which have been and will be found useful in thousands of cases, but we think that the sale of all patent medicines, known to contain dangerous ingredients, should be placed under the same restrictions

as those that govern the sale of poisons. By so doing another important step would be taken towards lessening the immense rate of infant mortality.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE OVERLAND MONTHLY FOR AUGUST.—The August number of this popular monthly contains a mass of varied reading. The tales will be found to be full of interest, and, with one exception, possess the merit of originality. "John Rickson's Trial" is a pathetic story of home life, which cannot fail to enlist the sympathies of the reader with the hero. "Mannell" is a love tale of a romantic type—an ideal Western romance. "A Tale of Spanish Pride" will be read with unflinching interest. Unfortunately it bears such a remarkable resemblance to one of Balzac's romances, as to destroy all claim to originality. The editor has doubtless been imposed upon by some contributor. If we might suggest it would be well for the *Overland* to adopt the system followed by *Scribner's*, and other American magazines, in publishing the name of the author of each paper appearing in their pages. This is an unflinching preventative for literary piracy. "A Chapter of Condensed History" discusses Japan in its past, present, and probable future conditions in a lucid and instructive manner. "Sea Pictures" is a pretty piece of word painting; but the writer is evidently not of the nautical persuasion. "The Owen's Valley Earthquake" is a scientific treatise on a most interesting subject. It is timely and valuable. "Ultrava" will fully repay perusal. The poetic contributions of this number are above the average, and with the single exception noted, for which we can hardly hold the editor responsible, the number is all that can be desired.

IN THE TRACK OF OUR EMIGRANTS: THE NEW DOMINION AS A HOME FOR ENGLISHMEN. pp. 60. Illustrated with Heliotype Maps. By Alex. Rivington. London: Sampson, Low, Marston, Low, & Searle.

This is a work that must prove exceedingly useful at home, and which would be read with great interest here. Its object is sufficiently explained by the title. The author is a gentleman who was connected with an Emigration Committee from the latter part of 1862 until the spring of 1871. "In that year," he says, "the difficulty of answering to my own satisfaction, if not to the satisfaction of the numerous anxious inquirers, as to the truth of the statements about this New Home for Englishmen, led me to cross the Atlantic and see for myself the country I had assisted others to adopt as their own, and the following pages are the result of my visit in the summer and autumn of last year to Canada and the United States." After a lengthy Introduction, which forms an admirable essay on Emigration—to which we recently had occasion to refer at length—the writer proceeds to detail his experience. Quebec did not appear to strike him favourably. "The Province" is the least progressive of all the Provinces of Canada," and the city "does not seem to have advanced in the last twenty years more than the dullest and most antiquated provincial town in France itself." Montreal, however, offered a wonderful contrast. Here "we were made aware, on every side, of life in all its aspects. The crowded hotels, the thronged streets, the new and handsome buildings, the busy quays, the ships and steamers of all nations which studded the river, seemed a cheerful relief to the old gables, crooked streets, dirty semi-civilized appearance of Quebec." After a word of praise for the St. George's Society, the author passes on to Toronto by water, past the Thousand Islands, in which he was disappointed, Kingston, "a quiet, dull, but evidently thriving place," Cobourg, and Port Hope. Of Toronto he speaks in high praise. Here he interviewed the Emigration Agent, and the (then) Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Carling. He then passed on to Hamilton, of which he says, "it is exactly like Kingston or Toronto in its general features; a large and thriving town, capable of absorbing many masons, bricklayers, shipwrights, and boatmakers." Fancy the ire of the Hamiltonians at having their Ambitious City compared to sleepy old Kingston! At Hamilton he had an opportunity of admiring the coolness with which the sufferers by a "smash-up" took their mishaps. After a hasty visit to Niagara our author next turns up in New Brunswick, where he has an approving word for the European and North American Railway and the projected line now under construction from Fredericton to Rivière du Loup. In very high terms he praises the fertility of the Province and the abundant advantages which are here awaiting intending settlers. But the route of the Intercolonial Railway terribly—and shall we say justly?—excites his indignation. "The wisdom of making this line I must say I failed to see, notwithstanding the arguments laid before me by one of the Dominion Ministers, who was living on the coast, and no doubt used his influence to secure so desirable a means of locomotion from the Bay of Miramichi to Quebec and Halifax." St. John did not find favour in his eyes. It looked from the water "a heterogeneous jumble of warehouses and chimney pots," and when he got into the city he was not much better pleased. On the rivalry between St. John and Halifax our author is honestly outspoken. "They"—the citizens—"would, above all, be inestimably happy if only their rival in Nova Scotia were tomorrow engulfed fifty fathoms deep at the bottom of the broad Atlantic," and, on the other hand, "the Haligonians would be as delighted at a similar catastrophe happening to the forty thousand people who eat, drink, and sleep in the antiquated town on the banks of the River St. John." In St. John he met an American agent endeavouring to attract immigrants to Minnesota. His presence is "one of the signs of the times, and the St. John people had better look to it." With regard to Nova Scotia Mr. Rivington feels almost inclined to endorse Sam Slick's opinion of the people—like the nigger boy who found a diamond worth a thousand dollars and sold it for fifty cents, they don't know the value of their diamond. A brief sketch is given of the advance of the Province since the days when the clockmaker wrote, showing "how the present generation have partially opened their eyes to the advantages they possess over other Provinces of the New Confederation." Still "there is much left undone that might be done." Proper attention has not been paid to Immigration, though a proposal now emanates from the Local Government to form in Great Britain "a Joint Stock Nova Scotia Farming and Land Company, with a capital of £50,000 stg., divided into shares of £5." The beauty and fertility of the country.