

MORTALITY OF CHILDREN.—Dr. Carpenter, the honorary secretary of the Montreal Sanitary Association, has published in the *Gazette* a paper on "Some of the causes of the most unusual disproportion between the deaths of young children and adults." Among other tables, he presents the following as covering the mortality of Montreal:

Average Weekly Mortality of Adults (and Children above 12) for each Month.	Average of 12 years.				Average Weekly Mortality of Children under 12 for each month.	Average of 12 years.			
	1868.	1867.	1866.	1865.		1868.	1867.	1866.	1865.
January	17.5	24.0	19.2	16.9	40.0	41.0	37.5	35.8	57.5
February	26.6	26.5	22.0	17.9	46.0	43.7	36.5	34.9	72.6
March	28.0	27.4	22.8	17.4	58.5	48.8	36.6	36.6	70.2
April	30.7	29.7	27.5	20.1	66.0	50.5	45.7	40.0	80.2
May	25.0	25.2	26.5	18.5	71.2	55.7	38.0	46.9	81.0
June	26.2	21.4	20.6	18.1	77.7	72.4	36.2	46.9	93.8
July	30.7*	22.2	18.5	17.9	127.0	144.5	85.2	75.5	103.9
August	28.0	29.8	24.5	18.1	114.6	109.4	72.2	63.3	142.6
September	20.5	21.5	22.8	17.8	81.0	69.2	56.0	44.6	101.5
October	25.4	21.7	27.0	18.2	40.4	36.7	39.2	33.5	65.8
November	29.7	19.8	26.0	18.3	48.2	35.0	39.0	31.9	70.9
December	21.7	22.0	26.0	18.6	42.2	27.7	33.2	33.5	63.9
Average week of year	25.3	24.3	23.6	18.1	67.7	61.2	45.9	43.0	93.1

The conclusions drawn from the various elaborate tables prepared by him are (1) that the mortality of Montreal is excessive as compared with the immediate adjacent country districts under the same climatic conditions, but less favored as regards wealth and intelligence; (2) that this excess is utterly disproportionate in the ratio of the deaths of children and adults; (3) that this excessive mortality attains its greatest height during the heats of summer. Though city mothers give birth to 2,000 infants yearly, in addition to the infants born among the same number of country people, the city only gains 62 lives as the fruit of all this suffering. The summer influences affect but slightly children under five years, and most of all these under one

* Without the 30 deaths from sunstroke, the Adult average for July would have been only 23.2, (or a little more than that of November,) in spite of the unusually oppressive heat.

year. A boy of five years has about 100 times the chance of life that can be hoped for an infant of months both in December and July. According to seasons, the older child has 42 chances of life as compared with his baby-brother, in winter, 64 chances in spring and autumn, and 91 chances in summer. On the average of the year the child under five has 9 chances of life as compared with the baby; the child above five, 66 chances. Of the children born in Montreal during 1867, two out of every five died within the year.

SYDENHAM FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.—A meeting of the members of this company was held Aug. 7. Mr. Hugh Reid in the chair. A Board of Directors was appointed consisting of the following gentlemen, viz.: Messrs. Hugh Reid, Gideon Harkness, James Gardner, Daniel Lamont, Robert McCutcheon, John Donald, and David McDowell. A set of bye-laws were adopted and the annual meeting appointed for the 3rd Saturday in Sept. of each year. The Directors immediately met and elected Gideon Harkness President, Wm. P. Telford, Sec. Treasurer, and Martin Cathrea, general Agent. The President, Secretary and H. Reid were appointed a committee to make arrangements for printing.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—At the annual meeting of the Royal Insurance, it was stated that the fire premiums for the year 1868 amounted to £475,572, and the losses to £299,901, being a lower ratio of loss than has obtained some years past, leaving a net profit in this department amounting to £57,282. The results of the operations for the year in the life department were still more satisfactory, the premiums received being £208,736, while the losses were £78,353. The usual dividend of 7s. per share, free of income tax, was declared, and a surplus of £167,843 added to the funds of the company.

—The Bill introduced into the English House of Commons for the regulation of Life Assurance Companies has been dropped.

—A large number of incendiary fires have taken place in Montreal, within the past week. Fortunately these have been attended with little damage to property.

—The Town Council of Port Hope is urging the adoption of some measures to give increased protection to the property of the town, from the ravages of fire.

Railway News.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—Traffic for week ending August 6th 1869.

Passengers	29,119 47
Freight	25,579 69
Mails and Sundries	3,074 29

Total Receipts for week	\$57,773 45
Corresponding week, 1868	56,956 55

Increase \$816 90

NORTHERN RAILWAY.—Traffic receipts for week ending July 17, 1869.

Passengers	\$2,709 32
Freight and live stock	11,091 28
Mails and sundries	347 69

Corresponding Week of '68. \$14,148 29

Increase \$5,627 68

BROCKVILLE & OTTAWA R. R. Co.—At the annual meeting of the Board of this Company, the following gentlemen were re-elected for the current year: President, J. G. Richardson, Esq.; Vice-President, H. Abbott, Esq.; Superintendent, R. P. Cooke, Esq. Directors—J. W. Rivers, A. McArthur, B. Rosamond, and A. B. Dana, Esqrs. Secretary and Treasurer, W. R. Worsley, Esq.

CANADA CENTRAL RAILWAY.—At the meeting of the Canada Central Railway shareholders,

on the 21st inst. J. G. Richardson, Esq., was elected President, S. Abbott, Esq. Vice-President, and R. W. Scott, Esq. Hon. John Hamilton, and Messrs. Askworth, Lowe and Rivers, were appointed Directors.

PETERBORO' WOODEN RAILWAY.—The By-law providing for a Bonus in aid of the Railway was passed in Snowden by a majority of five. In Minden it was rejected; for 25, against 48. In Lutterworth Anson and Hinden, the By-Law was also rejected 45 against 14 for it.

—The Windsor and Annapolis Railway, in Nova Scotia, traverses the scene of Longfellow's "Evangeline." The locomotives on the road, which is now nearly finished, are named, in honor of the characters, in this and others of Longfellow's poems, the "Gairiel," the "Gaspereau," the "Evangeline," the "Hiawatha" and the "Minnehaha."

—A preliminary meeting of the Provisional Directors of the Missisquoi Junction Railway Company was held at Dunham on the 14th inst. After some discussion respecting the prospects of the line, and of the railways which it is to be constructed to connect, the meeting was adjourned until the 11th prox., when it is proposed to open the stock books and take steps for a permanent organization of the company. —*Gazette*.

—The Erie railway is reported to have made contracts to Chicago and intermediate points as low as twelve cents per hundred. About 500 fully loaded goods cars left the Erie depot at Buffalo, Saturday and Sunday, and ten extra trains were put on to accommodate shippers. It is known that a contract was made in Buffalo Saturday with the Erie Company to transport 500,000 bushels wheat at 11½ cents a bushel. These cheap rates are having a ruinous effect upon the Erie Canal. —*Buffalo Express*, Aug. 25.

Financial.

TORONTO STOCK MARKET.

(Reported by Pellatt & Osler, Brokers.)

Business on the stock market has been very inactive for the past week, very little doing either in stocks or bonds.

Bank Stock.—Montreal sold during the week at 157½, but advanced again closing with buyers at 162. No British offering. Small sales of Ontario were made at 95½, little doing. Buyers offer 123½ for Toronto, no stock offering. A sale of Royal Canadian at 62½ is reported to have taken place at Montreal; none offering in this market. Sales of Commerce were made at 105 and 105½; it is still procurable at the latter rate. Gore is enquired for at 80 but not offered. Merchants sold during the week at 105½, 105½ and 106, sellers are now asking 106½. Buyers offer 101 for Quebec with sellers at 101½. Sales of Molson's have taken place at 109½, but buyers now offer only 108½. There were sales of City at 101 and 101½, sellers now asking 102. Buyers offer 107½ to 108 for for Nationale, none offering. Jacques Cartier is enquired for at 108, sellers asking 109. No transactions in Mechanics', buyers and sellers are as much as 2½ per cent. apart in their views. Union is nominal at 105, sellers ask 106.

Debentures.—No debentures of any kind offering. Dominion Stock is offered at 107. Buyers offer to pay 7 per cent. for Toronto, none offering. First class Counties are enquired for at par, none on market.

Sundries.—No City Gas has been offered for some time past, buyers would give 109. British America Assurance is asked for at 57½, no stock offering. There were sales of Canada Permanent Building Society at 123½ and 123½, it would command 124, but little offering. Sales of Western Canada Permanent Building Society were made at 119 to 119½, with buyers at the latter rate. Freehold Building Society sold at 119 to 119½, with