

THE QUEBEC TRANSCRIPT,

AND GENERAL ADVERTISER.

Vol. II.—No. 27.]

WEDNESDAY, 17th APRIL, 1839.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

PRINTING

Of every Description,
EXECUTED WITH
ATTENTION, ACCURACY AND DESPATCH,
And on Moderate Terms,

BY
WILLIAM COWAN & SON,
AT
THE OFFICE OF THE QUEBEC TRANSCRIPT,
No. 13, SAINT JOHN STREET,
UPPER TOWN, QUEBEC,
10th April, 1839.

LONDON HATS, BOOTS, SHOES

FOR SALE AT THE STORE OF
HORATIO CARWELL,
No. 4, Fabrique Street,

SMALL selection, assorted prices, Gen-
tlemen's Black and Grey BEAVER
HATS, made to order, of the newest shapes.
ALSO:
Three trunks Gentlemen's Dress Pumps; Wel-
ton Cloth and Leather BOW CHAIRS; Press
Seats, made of the best materials and of the most
reasonable make.
10th April, 1839.

TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

The Committee of the Q. T. A. Society,
in calling the attention of the friends of
temperance to the following PROSPECTUS,
will just state that Subscriptions—
in Shilling and Sixpence per annum,
are STRICTLY IN ADVANCE—
to be received by

Mr. JOHN SHAW, Saint John Street,
Mr. D. CAMERON, Rue Sous-le-Fort,
Lower Town, and
Messrs. MUSSON & SAVAGE, Buede St.
Quebec, 10th April, 1839.

* Persons wishing to subscribe, will be kind
enough to hand in the amount immediately, as the
same will not be sent from Montreal without the

PROSPECTUS

Of the Fifth Volume of the

NADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE

The Committee of the Montreal Temperance
Society, in commencing another volume, can-
not request the aid of the friends of Total Ab-
stinence in both Provinces to extend its circulation,
subscribing themselves and procuring as many
subscribers as possible. The welfare of our coun-
try, the safety of our families, and the prosperity of
the Church of Christ, demand vigorous measures
to stem the torrent of intemperance which is rapid-
ly spreading its destructive course over the land.
Among the many means for effecting a reform,
the promulgation of truth, through the medium of
the press has been, by the blessing of God, one of the
most efficacious. Acting upon this belief, the Com-
mittee, besides making arrangements to render the
Temperance Advocate still more interesting, have
resolved to lower the price of the next volume fully
HALF, although at the present rates, its sup-
port is attended with considerable pecuniary loss.
To sustain the undertaking at even a moderate sale,
prompt payment and an extended circula-
tion are absolutely necessary. The friends of
temperance are, therefore, appealed to for renew-
ed exertions, in order that the committee may be
enabled in some measure from the responsibility as-
signed, and be enabled to continue the support of a
work so necessary for the success of the Temper-
ance Reformation.

The following are the terms of the fifth volume:
When delivered in town, 1/6 annum, 1/4 copy,
by mail (except to post-masters) postage in-
cluded, from 1 to 10 copies 1s. 8d. 1/2 annum; from
10 to 100, 1s. 6d.; 100 and above, 1s. 3d. NO PA-
RTER FORWARDED WITHOUT PAYMENT IN
ADVANCE. All communications and remit-
tances to be sent (post paid) to Mr. JAMES COURT,
notary.

* Copies will be sent (gratis) to every Mi-
nister of the Gospel and Schoolmaster whose names
are transmitted. Individuals and Societies un-
willing to pay for the quantities they may wish to take,
may be supplied at reduced prices or gratis, on
giving proper representations.
MONTREAL, February, 1839.

FOR SALE.
ONE HUNDRED Kegs superior U. C.
BUTTER,
130 Barrels ditto ditto fine Flour,
50 ditto ditto ditto Peas,
EBENEZER BAIRD,
Quebec, 7th Feb, 1839.

FIRE WOOD FOR SALE.
THE SUBSCRIBER offers for sale, from
One to One Hundred Cords of Firewood,
of the best quality.
S. TOZER,
Upper Town, Market.
Quebec, 9th March, 1839.

R. C. TODD,
HERALD PAINTER,
No. 16, St. NICHOLAS STREET,

THE highest price given for all kinds of
OLD ROPE, by
THOMAS COOK,
Quebec, 25th January, 1839. Gaol.

THE SUBSCRIBERS OFFER

FOR SALE—
300 KEGS London WHITE LEAD,
100 Kegs do. do. genuine No. 1,
15 Casks English LINED OIL, double
boiled,
5 do. Raw do.
100 Boxes superior English YELLOW SOAP
100 Casks fine Canada ROSE NAILS 3 1/2
36 lb.
10 doz. SHOVELS,
10 Cwt. best English GLUE,
WITH A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF
Hardware.
JOHN SHAW & CO.
IMPORTERS, QUEBEC.
2nd March, 1839.

CHAMPAGNE, CHABLIS, AND BUR- GUNDY WINES.

THE Subscriber having been appointed by
Messrs. DAMOTTE & CHEVALIER, of
Tonnere, Agent for the sale of their WINES
in this city, invites the attention of the public
to a consignment just received.
JOHN YOUNG,
St. Peter Street.

FOR SALE,

By the Subscriber,
No. 11, NOTRE-DAME STREET, LOWER TOWN.
50 CHESTS Bohem Tea,
20 Barrels Roasted Coffee,
20 Casks Epsom Salts,
20 Casks Alum,
50 Kegs Plug Tobacco, superior.

... ALSO, ...
Rice, Starch, Blue, Leaf Tobacco, Barley,
Pepper, Cloves, Raisins, Almonds, Nuts, Pick-
les, Sauces, Mustard, Chocolate, Cheese, But-
ter, Hams, &c., &c.
JOHN FISHER,
Quebec, 8th March, 1839.

HAVANNAH CIGARS.

Just Received,
A FEW HAVANNAH CIGARS, of super-
ior quality.
PETER DELCOUR,
No. 3, St. John Street
22nd Dec. 1838.

SUPERIOR

BOTTLED SODA WATER,
MANUFACTURED AND SOLD BY
MUSSON & SAVAGE.

SWAIM'S

CELEBRATED PANACEA,
FOR SALE BY
MUSSON & SAVAGE,
Chemists and Druggists.

MOFFATS

LIFE PILLS & FRENCH BITTERS,
FOR SALE BY
MUSSON & SAVAGE.

Poetry.

NATURE'S TRUTH.

BY BURKE.
'Tis midnight; round the lamp which o'er
The chamber sheds the lonely beam,
It widely spread the varied lore
Which feeds in youth the feverish dream;
The dream, the thirst, the wild desire,
Delicious, yet divine—to know!
Around to roam, above to aspire,
And drink the breath of heaven below!
From ocean—earth, the stars and sky,
To hit my sternous nature's pall,
And bare before the kindling eye,
In man, the darkest mist of all.

Alas! what boots the midnight ell—
The sadness of the struggling mind!
Oh vain the hopes and vain the toil
Which only leaves us doubly blind!
What learn we from the past—the same
Dull course of glory, gait and gloom!
I asked the future—and there came
No voice from its unfathomed womb.
The sun was silent and the wave,
The air repiled but with a breath;
But earth was kind and from the grass
Arose the eternal answer—*Death!*

And this was all; we need no sage
To teach us Nature's only truth;
Oh, fools! O'er Wisdom's side you sit
To waste the hours of golden youth,
In Science do we widely seek,
What only withers years should bring—
The languid pulse, the feverish cheek,
The spirit drooping in the wing.

Even now my wandering eyes survey
The glass to youthful glance so dear;
What deepening tracks of slow decay
Exhausted thought has graven here!
To think, is but to learn to groan.
To scorn what all beside adore;
To feel amid the world alone—
An alien on a desert shore;
To loose the only ties that seem
To silder gaze, in mercy given;
To find love, faith and hope a dream,
And turn to dark despair from Heaven.

THE GREAT PLAGUE AT ATHENS.

The first known instance of the appearance
of the plague in Europe was at Athens, the
Capital of Attica, in Greece, 430 years before
the Christian era. The city was at this time
enclosed within vast massive fortifications, ex-
tending in circumference, to about twenty
miles. Athens contained more than 10,000
houses, and more than 150,000 inhabitants,
and one of the consequences of the war, and
the policy of Pericles was, that, at the time
when the disorder began its ravages, the city
and ports, with an area not exceeding three
square miles, were sheltered within their walls
from the enemy then devastating the neigh-
bourhood by fire and sword, not only the usual
number of citizens, but all the people of the
country of Attica, which had a surface of about
700 square miles, and about 500,000 inhabi-
tants. Hence, the city was crammed to suffo-
cation with a far greater multitude of human
beings than the houses could possibly contain.
Athens was at all times a suffocating place,
notwithstanding all its elegant temples and por-
ticoes, its groves and gardens; besides, it had
no public drains under the streets, and the rural
population thus crowded together with their
cattle and movables, suffered so much from
want of air and cleanliness, that the mortality
by the plague was enormous. The enemy al-
so, encamped around the walls, were then con-
stantly keeping the citizens in a state of dis-
tress and terror, and united with the pesti-
lence in driving them to utter despair.

The disease was said to have had its origin
in that part of Africa which is situated consid-
erably beyond Egypt, and called Upper Ethio-
pia. From that country, which has been
stigmatised in all ages as the source of the
disorder, it passed into Egypt and Lybia, and
after spreading over a considerable part of
the king of Persia's dominions, it came at length
to Greece, and broke out in Athens. So igno-
rant were the Athenians themselves of the
origin of the plague, when, at a season remark-
ably free from all other diseases, it suddenly
made its appearance in the Firmus, that there
was a report among them of the Peloponnesi-
ans their enemies, having thrown poison into
the wells—a very common supposition among
ignorant people. On the malady extending

from the Piræus to the town itself, where the
houses were more closely built, a more sweep-
ing mortality of the human race ensued than
had ever before been known in any other part
of the world. So swiftly did it spread from
person to person, from house to house, from
street to street, that the afflicted city in its
consternation dreaded the utter extinction of life
within its walls. Difference of constitution in
point of strength or weakness, seemed of no
consequence as to security from its attacks, it
hurried off all alike. The skill of the physi-
cians could administer no relief, as they were
utterly ignorant of the nature of the disease;
and, besides, by their attendance on the sick,
they became its earliest victims.

The symptoms of the disease in every
case were different, so that the remedies which
benefited one were prejudicial to another. In
general, however, during the enjoyment of
high health, and without any apparent cause,
the complaint suddenly began with great heat
in the head, causing inflammation and redness
in the eyes, tongue, and throat. The breath
was tainted, and the skin became marked with
black livid spots. Fits of sneezing occasioned
great uneasiness, there were also violent fits of
coughing, with great pain. When it fixed it-
self in the stomach, other symptoms still more
distressing appeared, as vomiting and spasms,
or convulsions. The afflicted generally died on
the seventh or ninth day, by which time
the fever had spent its force, or if they escaped
the crisis on these days, they were very soon
afterwards carried off, either by internal ulcer-
ation and other shocking concomitants, or by
mere weakness. The disorder having, in the
less malignant cases, passed through the whole
body, occasioning excruciating torments, final-
ly settled in the extremities. And it always
left upon them marks of its ravages, so that
some who had supported all the violence of
the attack upon the vital parts, survived with
the loss of their fingers and toes. Some again
were totally deprived of their sight, others lost
their memory for a time, and on their recov-
ery they did not remember their nearest rela-
tions, nor know even themselves. So burned
up were the internal parts of the body with
fever, that the sufferers could not bear the
slightest clothing to be put upon them. They
were seized with a vehement desire to plunge
for relief into cold water; this longing and the
desire for water to drink, were so intense, that
many who were not closely attended to, ran
off, and, on a momentary impulse for allevia-
tion of pain, precipitated themselves into wells.
Corpses but half dead were seen tumbling
over each other in great heaps, not only in the
temples and streets, but about every fountain
whither their eagerness for water had hurried
them.

So unusual and virulent beyond description
was the disorder, that, although there were
lying about in all directions numerous unburied
corpses, in such positions as death had left
them, yet the birds and beasts of prey did not
venture to approach them. Birds of prey, such
as the sluggish and ferocious vulture, totally
disappeared from Athens, being destroyed by
having touched the corpses.

While the dreadful mortality was such as to
excite the fears that the living might not be
sufficient to bury the dead, the only allevia-
tion of the general misery was, that those who
had once recovered were not liable to a second
attack, and their most happy ease was wistful-
ly looked to by all, as warranting the cheerful
hope that their city would not be entirely dis-
peopled. The safety in which they consider-
ed themselves gave them courage in their at-
tendance on those who needed it, and, from
knowing by experience what the malady was,
they were the more compassionate and useful
to the afflicted.

As the supplications of the Athenians in
their temples, their consultations of oracles,
their sacrifices and incantations seemed use-
less, they at last abandoned themselves to des-
pair, and violated all the long established rites
and customs of the sepulchre. Neglecting all
religious observances, and sparing every law
divine and human, they regarded their lives
and possessions as held by the tenure of a day
only, and recklessly gave themselves up to the
pursuit of pleasure. They scrupled not to be