

W. Gomm to suspend the existing immigration regulations.

The Council of Bourbon had voted 15,000 dollars per annum towards defraying the expenses of steam communication with Europe jointly with Mauritius.

We have been favoured with a private letter from Zanzibar, which contains information of no small importance. We have only time at present to extract the passage:—"Free labourers are to be had in Zanzibar and in great numbers. It may not be generally known that a custom exists amongst the Arabs, and particularly those who are piously inclined, of liberating at their deaths the whole, or a great proportion, of the slaves they possess. Thousands are in this way annually liberated, and a reasonable prospect of advancement held out to them would induce them to abandon their pursuits here for a remunerative engagement in Mauritius. In addition to these there are thousands of free labourers in Zanzibar who are born free, and whose forefathers never knew what slavery was. The British Consul here (for what reason I cannot tell) seems much opposed to the emigration of labourers to Mauritius; and some of his statements as to the impracticability of procuring free labourers here I am fully prepared to prove incorrect. All that is required here is an agent duly appointed and possessing the full authority of the Mauritius Government."—*Mauritian*.

A pamphlet, published under the title of "La Sérigène à Maurice," contains

an examination of the advantages to be derived from the production of silk in Mauritius. Various calculations are entered into to prove that this branch of industry will add to the richness of our Colony, and the author seems to be thoroughly and practically conversant with the subject he treats. Already mulberry trees have been planted in many parts of the island, and many spinning machines have lately arrived from Bordeaux, therefore there is reason to hope that silk will, in a few years, form an article of exportation from our island.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The report that the Surveyors had found a pass for a railway through the Restigouche mountains (which I mentioned in my last) is said to be correct, although not reported officially. It is now said that an available line from Halifax to Quebec is to be reported at the close of this season, and then we shall see if the Government are really in earnest as to "Railway Colonisation." The circumstance of the American Government having given notice of the termination of the agreement to transmit the mail from Boston to Montreal, will give an increased desire for a direct communication from Halifax to Quebec. The Postmaster-General of Canada, advises that Montreal is now in communication with New York by the electric telegraph, and that the posts are already up for the line from Montreal to Quebec, and thence to the boundary of New Brunswick.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

At Moderat-house, Ceylon, on the 11th of September, the lady of John Armitage, Esq., member of the Legislative Council, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 13th July, at St. Mary's Church, Malulipatam, Madras, by the Rev. R. Noble, M.A., J. Somerville, Esq., 26th regiment, N.I., to Elizabeth M. G., second daughter of the late G. Simmonds, Esq., Captain, R.N., of Portsmouth, Hants.

On the 21st September, at St. John's Church, Derby, George Hall, Esq., of Parkhurst Prison, Isle of Wight, late of the 52nd Light Infantry, to Julia, eldest daughter of Colonel George Gawler, K.H., formerly of the 52nd Light Infantry, and late Governor of South Australia.

At Colombo, Ceylon, on the 21st August, Samuel Dawson, Esq., of Canton, to Frances

Ann, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Charles Smelt, of Gudling, Notts, and niece of the Hon. Major General Smelt, C.B., Commander of the forces in Ceylon.

At Quebec, on the 7th September, the Rev. Jasper H. Nicolls, M.A., Principal of Bishop's College, Lennoxville, son of Lieutenant-General Nicolls, R.E., to Harriett Mary, daughter of the Lord Bishop of Montreal.

DEATHS.

At St. John, New Brunswick, on the 12th September, Thomas L. Nicholson, Esq., a leading merchant of the city, aged 56.

At Mount Edward, Prince Edward Island, on the 6th September, after giving birth to a daughter, who survives her, Elizabeth, the beloved wife of the Hon. Chief Justice Jarvis, and daughter of the late Hon. Robert Gray, formerly Treasurer of that Island.