

the shot across the bore, which enhanced the difficulty of its escape. 3rd That pebble powder developed some new quality when ignited in 120 lb. charges, which it did not possess when fired in quantities of 100 lb., and under. Now the centering ribbed 7-in. shot had attained, with 2 deg. elevation, Admiral Key's extreme fighting range of 1,500 yards with 20 lb. of powder, whilst the studded French or "Woolwich" one required 25 lb. to do so. Supposing those proportions to hold good with large calibres, the 700-lb. projectile, if provided with centering ribs, narrow and shallow grooves, and an uniform twist, would be thrown with the 100 lb. uniform-pressure pebble powder the same distance that it was now thrown with the 120 lb. erratic-pressure self-destructive charge, and so the "incipient crack" would not have arisen.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1872.

SUNDAY,	Mar. 17.—	Passion Sunday. St. Patrick, Bp. Le Canadien suppressed, 1810. The Governor-General sent down a message with the British Columbia Resolutions to the Dominion Parliament, 1871.
MONDAY,	" 18.—	St. Edward, K. & M. Sir R. Walpole died, 1745. Sterne died, 1768. Princess Louise born, 1848. Revolutionary outbreak in Paris, 1871.
TUESDAY,	" 19.—	French Army left Marseilles for the East, 1854. Napoleon left Wilhelmshöhe for England, 1871. Revolution outbreak in Paris, 1871.
WEDNESDAY,	" 20.—	Sir Isaac Newton died, 1727. First publication of Johnson's "Rambler," 1750. Intercolonial R. R. Commission met at Ottawa, 1870.
THURSDAY,	" 21.—	St. Benedict, Ab. Montcalm repulsed at Fort William Henry, 1757. Battle of Aboukir, 1801. Princess Louise married, 1871. Emperor William opened the Reichstag of the new German Empire, 1871.
FRIDAY,	" 22.—	Order of the Knights Templar suppressed, 1312. Emperor William born, 1797. Goethe died, 1832. German Zollverein established, 1833.
SATURDAY,	" 23.—	Kotzebue assassinated, 1819. Von Weber died, 1829. Sir George Arthur, Lt.-Governor Ontario, 1838. Battle of Novara, 1849.

TEMPERATURE in the shade, and Barometer indications for the week ending Tuesday, 5th March, 1872, observed by HEARN, HARRISON & Co., 242 Notre Dame Street.

	W.	Th.	Fri.	Sat.	Su.	M.	Tu.
Feb. 28.	25°	20°	16°	31°	32°	32°	32°
Mar. 1.	25°	20°	16°	31°	32°	32°	32°
Mar. 2.	25°	20°	16°	31°	32°	32°	32°
Mar. 3.	25°	20°	16°	31°	32°	32°	32°
Mar. 4.	25°	20°	16°	31°	32°	32°	32°
Mar. 5.	25°	20°	16°	31°	32°	32°	32°

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

The arrangements for transferring to local agents the total charge of our subscribers, so far as renewing and collecting subscriptions and distributing papers are concerned, not having met with general approval on the part of subscribers; and the agents having in many cases declined the responsibility, or neglected our interests, theirs, and that of our subscribers, we are obliged to revert to the former mode of distribution through Post. This need not disturb arrangements already made between any subscriber and any local news-dealer. We hope to see the sales effected by news agents increase rapidly, and desire that as much of our business as possible may be transacted through them. But we cannot overlook the complaints now made, and henceforth our subscribers will receive their papers, as formerly, through the Post. Any one who has missed any numbers since 1st of January can have them *gratis* on application.

Our readers are reminded that the subscription to the NEWS is \$4.00 per annum, payable in advance; if unpaid in three months it will be charged at the rate of Five Dollars.

All OLD subscribers whose subscriptions are unpaid on 1st July next, will be struck off the list.

All NEW subscriptions received henceforward, MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

THE CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1872.

Most people are in favour of sanitary reform, and we hope that many of them in this country have seen that the *Canada Medical Journal* has propounded a plan whereby the best medical talent might be made effective in advising the Government as to the mode of taking reasonable care of the people's lives. At present it must be confessed that the general Government of the Dominion has done but little towards the establishment of sanitary institutions or the enforcement of sanitary laws. A few weeks ago we had occasion to remark upon this subject, and quoted from the authorities referred to by the *Medical Journal*. It was our misfortune to have differed from the dicta of some of the authorities quoted by the *Journal* on a former occasion, though we cordially endorsed the conclusions to which it had arrived as to the obligation of the Canadian Government to establish a Board of Health. The *Medical Journal* says:

"We observe that the Editor of the *Canadian Illustrated News* in alluding to the articles which have already appeared in our journal on the subject of "Sanitary Reform," propounds the novel doctrine that vice and ignorance give rise to contagious maladies. If this be the case, it is greatly to be woun-

dered at that these diseases are so prevalent among the virtuous and educated. Experience certainly bears out the proposition of Sir J. Y. Simpson, that contagious diseases never spring up *de novo*, but that they are always due to contagion or infection in some form. The Editor asks: "Whence then the small-pox? Does Sir James mean to teach us that it was created, like the dog or the hawthorn, and must of necessity be propagated by its seed?" Most certainly. Small-pox is due to a specific poison, but requires an appropriate soil for its development. We have it in the sacred volume that the Almighty permitted Satan to try the patience of Job, and he did so by afflicting him with boils and other sores. We may therefore infer that small-pox was an invention of the devil, with as much logical precision, as that it was created like the dog or the hawthorn.

"The Editor of the *Illustrated News* mistakes our meaning when he says: 'Such hospitals under the charge of a Board of Health with powers that would be very likely claimed for it, might be made the agency for much domestic agony by separating those who from family ties and personal feeling would rather be together in sickness as in health, and even unto death.' We never would recommend extreme measures of this character, but if persons assume the responsibility of the care of friends under such conditions, they should be obliged to comply with the most strict measures of isolation and segregation."

The Editor of the *Medical Journal* might have acknowledged our adhesion to his proposed system for the abatement of these diseases, even while he was censuring us for what he calls the "novel doctrine" that "vice and ignorance" are the sources of disease. We adhere to what we said before on this point, Sir J. Y. Simpson to the contrary notwithstanding, and we take the very exemplar made use of by the *Medical Journal*—that of Job—as proof positive that Sir J. Y. Simpson's assertion was absolutely false if the story of Job's affliction be accepted as true. In that case surely the "boils and sores" did spring up *de novo*, at least not from any human contagion so far as we know; and if Satan be claimed by the *Medical Faculty* as the original inventor of contagious diseases, we may ask why cannot he re-create as well as propagate them? No one expects that "a dog or a hawthorn" will spring up of mere spontaneity; but very few will doubt that through filth, or disregard of the laws of moral and physical health, in other words, through the effects of "vice and ignorance," the worst diseases may be "born again," despite their capacity of spreading by contact when once created. It would be, perhaps, unfair to challenge the correctness of the assertion of the *Journal* that "these diseases are so prevalent among the virtuous and the educated," though our experience leads us to infer that they are not "so prevalent," and that when they are introduced into cleanly, virtuous, and educated families, the diseases have been communicated through association with parties who were the very reverse. Poor Waddington, the pioneer of the Canada Pacific Railway, died at Ottawa, a victim to his washerwoman's association with small-pox patients, and his case ought to be accounted a strong one for the adoption of the policy the *Medical Journal* advocates, but it does not prove that sin and filth, or "vice and ignorance" are not the root of "all the ills that flesh is heir to." It will be seen that the Editor of the *Medical Journal* casts discredit upon his approval of Sir J. Y. Simpson's assertion by his reference to the exemplar of patience who dwelt in the land of Uz. Now, we take the *Medical Journal* on its own ground: if "most certainly" contagious diseases were "created like the dog or the hawthorn" then whence the reflection that the small-pox was an "invention of the devil?" It should be remembered that our theory was that disease was not a creation (like the dog or the hawthorn) nor even an invention of the devil, but the result of sins against the laws of God and nature; or as we said before, the consequence of "vice and ignorance."

We may say that it was just because we did not believe Sir James Simpson's dictum; and that we did believe the contrary; namely, that vice, filth and ignorance are capable of re-creating infectious or contagious diseases—just as a properly prepared bed is capable of producing mushrooms—that we favoured, and still favour the idea so forcibly advocated by the *Medical Journal* of instituting a Dominion Board of Health. We commend the following extract to the attention of our readers, being the closing paragraphs of the article in which Satan and Job are made to do duty in defence of the doctrine of the original creation of disease and the impossibility of its re-creation—a doctrine which, in spite of Sir James Simpson and the *Medical Journal*, we still reject. However, we heartily agree with the suggestions contained in the extract below, and hope they may be carried out:

"Sanitary laws are based on actual observation and experience. It is well for any people if they profit by the experience of others. But the enforcing of sanitary regulations on the ignorant, becomes the duty of the Government of a country. In the case of Canada, the Government being without advice on this all important subject, cannot be expected to follow the suggestions of Local Boards of Health, or of every writer (however earnest), who takes up this subject in the interest of the whole community.

What we would again urge, is the calling together of a General Board of Health for the Dominion, not alone to coun-

sel the Government, but to prepare an efficient and comprehensive bill to be submitted to the Commons of Canada during the coming Session. If this is not done, or if measures are not entered into with a view of arousing the people from the state of lethargy which exists, we cannot tell what amount of sickness and death are before us, and it will then be too late to set to work to remedy the evil while a state of panic exists."

SOMERVILLE LECTURES.—The third of the course of Somerville Lectures was delivered on Thursday evening by Dr. J. Baker Edwards on "Applied Science as illustrated by Photo- and Chromo-Lithography." Dr. Edwards gave a sketch of the early history of Sennefelder, the inventor of the art of printing on stone, and described the process of Chromo-Lithography—or printing on separate stones in different colours so as to make up a composite picture. This had been perfected in England by the talent and perseverance of the late Mr. Bagster. He next spoke of the important aid of photography, especially in multiplying rare and costly works of art and placing Art as an Educator of the great mass of the people through the medium of illustrated newspapers. The modern improvements in photo-lithographic printing were then detailed, and specimens of its excellence exhibited—kindly lent from the establishment of Messrs. Leggo & Co. with the consent of Mr. Desbarats, and illuminated by the magnesium light; as well as the process of stereotyping, by which the *Hearthstone* is printed, and also that of Electrotyping.

The audience was large, the specimens much admired and a hearty vote of thanks returned to the Lecturer.

THE NEW YORK LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

We have no hesitation in commending this Company to public patronage. The figures presented in our advertising columns may be relied upon, and show that the New York holds the front rank among American Life Assurance offices. We may mention that last year it issued nearly nine thousand policies insuring about twenty-five millions of dollars. Such a business bespeaks universal confidence. Certainly the Company has every advantage here in respect of its local associations; the ex-Mayor, Mr. Workman, for President of the local board, with a number of gentlemen of high standing as his associates in the directory; Dr. F. W. Campbell as physician, and as agent Mr. Walter Burke, whose admirable business talent and geniality of manner so well qualify him for popularising any undertaking he may have in charge. We understand the "New York" is doing a large business in Canada.

CITY BUSINESS AND COUNTRY HOMES.

The following chatty article from the *New York Tribune* may be read with advantage by many city business men throughout Canada. To make the remarks thoroughly *apropos* they have but to substitute the name of their own city for that of New York. Says the *Tribune*:

"The demand for houses in the suburbs is very great, and many persons who purchased land with a merely speculative idea of speedy rise in value are investing their surplus capital in cheap and saleable buildings. In this way the land is made to pay more than its interest. Yet, while there are some houses for sale, there are comparatively few available ones to rent. Builders have not always chosen the best sites on their land for building. The low grounds near the depots have been in many cases selected in preference to the more picturesque, healthful and tillable grounds further away and on the hillsides. This is rather a comforting fact than otherwise for men who contemplate rural living, while looking into the mists of the present hints of spring. There are farmers and other land-holders within an hour's ride of New York who, being further away from the march of the house-hunters than their more fortunate neighbours nearer the depots, will sell elegant lots at reduced prices to respectable persons who will probably erect pretty, if not elaborate houses. There will be many such home-hunters this spring, as there have been every year since New York became crowded and had no means of speedy escape for her business population. To such people we offer some considerations.

First of all, be sure that the promise of the shortness of time between business and the expected home is such as it is said to be, and that the trains do make such stops as the land-owner suggests. Study the time-table, the condition of the road from the house or land to the depot, and the system of detentions to which every railway is unjustly, by its managers, made subject. Remember that the trains do not always catch the boats which are said on the time-table to belong to them, and know that it appears to be a rule with superintendents of ferries to leave the slips the moment they see a train approaching. It is safe to add one-quarter to the time specified on the time-table as required to reach New York. For a man that works in New York, an hour and a half is as much time as he ought to give to a single trip over the railway, while the arrangements are as wretched as they generally are now. A place which is given on the time-table as at an hour's travel from the City Hall, is far enough at present for most men, who work nine or ten hours a day, to seek. Even at that, they will have to give three hours a day to the cars. Without desiring to make any invidious distinctions, we are justified in saying that the railway which charges the least for commutation tickets and gives the least for them, is the Erie. The road is run for the mere purpose of making money. Its cars are good; its boats are elegant; its time-table is excitingly agreeable, but its brakemen are offensive, and its boasted time is a falsehood.

The home-hunter should go to the doctor of a rival village and ascertain whether there is anything unhealthy in the town he is seeking. Do not fully rely on the Doctor's word, unless you know he has no land for sale. One-quarter of the country places are under the ban of chills and fever. The men who live only a few hours a day at such places may have