

I observe, from a report of the inquiry ordered by the Board of Trade touching the loss of this vessel, that Captain Turner has not altogether been exonerated from censure; and from the reports of the passengers, and other sources, it would appear that Captain Turner left his ship in charge of his chief mate to seek assistance, and during the period of his absence the crew, who appear to have been a lawless set, broke open the boxes and trunks, and pillaged the property of the passengers. Had Captain Turner remained by his ship, as it was his imperative duty, considering the important responsibilities then devolving upon him, much of this lawless conduct would doubtless have been prevented; and, as there was no immediate danger of the vessel breaking up, the greater part of the passengers' property might have been saved. Mr. Fox reports that "the vessel was plundered of much of her materiel and stores, the passengers' trunks and baggage broken open and destroyed by a portion of the crew, with others belonging to strange vessels in the vicinity."

The painful circumstances attached to the loss of this vessel, as well as those under which its numerous passengers have thereby been placed, would render it highly desirable that the collectors of customs generally should be instructed, in the event of any disaster of a similar character occurring within their jurisdiction, to proceed at once to the wreck, and afford the protection vested in them (and provided for by the Passengers Act), for the preservation of the life and property of the passengers.

It is desirable that the Government schooner, "Canadien," should, in future, be despatched to the gulf as early in the season as practicable, as there is no question, but had Captain Fortin been in the vicinity where this vessel was lost, much, if not the whole, of these unfortunate peoples' luggage could have been saved. It might also be thought worthy of consideration, that the attention of emigrants should be called to the importance of insuring their property, which, from the facility afforded, can now be effected for a trifling sum, and the policy might be deposited with the Government emigration officer at the port of departure, to recover the amount in the event of shipwreck.

The expense incurred by this department for the relief and assistance of the passengers by this vessel, amounting to 842*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.*, has been transmitted, through your Excellency, to Her Majesty's Colonial Secretary, to be recovered from the owner in the manner provided for by the Passenger Act.

Table No. 6, furnishes a return of the number of persons sent out by the Poor Law Unions, or through the assistance of the parochial authorities, or by their landlords.

Table, No. 6.  
Paupers.

From this return it will appear that 311 persons received landing-money on arriving here, to the amount of 139*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* sterling, and paid under the superintendence of this department.

The number from England was 108; among them were 15 boys, sent out by the London Ragged School. They were well supplied with clothes, and received a sum sufficient to convey them to their destination on landing here. They appear industrious well-conducted lads; and 21, chiefly females from the Chatham Union; they received 1*l.* sterling each adult; 72 from Plymouth and Hull, appear to have received a free passage only.

From England.

The number aided in their emigration from Ireland was 268; 192 (*viz.*, 144 females, and 48 children), were from the Poor Law Unions, and received landing-money amounting to 136*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* sterling; 76 appear to have received a free passage only. They arrived in good health, and the greater portion of them had relations either in the Upper Province or in the United States, to whom they at once proceeded; such as had no particular destination were forwarded to the rural districts in Western Canada, where they all immediately found employment.

From Ireland.

From Scotland, 395 persons appear to have been assisted to emigrate; 9 families, 65 persons from the Island of Canna, Argyleshire, were provided with a free passage to this port; and 330 by the "Melissa," from Stornaway, were sent out by Sir James Matheson. These people, with Sir James's usual liberality, were amply provided for during the passage, and on arriving here were served with rations for 10 days, and forwarded free to their destination; 74 to

From Scotland.