

## REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

In the case of persons dying intestate, *i. e.*, without making a will, the next of kin may apply for letters of administration; but if there be no next of kin, or if the next of kin do not apply, the estate is administered by the Official Administrator, in which case the personal property of the deceased is sold by auction, and, after all debts and demands against the estate are satisfied, the residue of the money, if any, is paid into the Colonial Treasury, subject thereafter to be paid out by an order of a Judge of the Supreme Court, on receiving proof of claim.

Wills are proved by the executors of a deceased person before a Judge of the Supreme Court when probate is given.

Persons about to marry must obtain from the Registrar's office a certificate; for without this certificate no minister can perform the ceremony of marriage under a penalty. The persons applying for this certificate must lodge with the Registrar their names, and other particulars as to age, &c., and pay a fee of 2s. 6d.; and at the expiration of 14 days, on payment of an additional 5s., the certificate is granted. But the certificate can be granted and the marriage performed without any delay, on payment of a fee of £1 2s. 6d. Certificates can only be granted as stated where both parties are above the age of 21, or have been previously married. In the case of minors (excepting widowed ones) the law requires the consent in writing of the father, or, in the event of his death, the mother or guardian (given before the Registrar, at his office, or before a J.P., or a solicitor of the Supreme Court, or an Officiating Minister, and attested by him) in all cases where such parent or guardian be resident in the Colony. Persons married by the Registrar pay an additional fee of £3. No persons can be married according to the form of the Episcopal Church, unless the "banns" have been published three times in the church, or unless a special license is obtained from the Bishop's Surrogate. This special license costs £2, and is in addition to the minister's fee, and to the Registrar's fee for the certificate.

Births may be registered without fee any time within sixty-two days from the date of the birth, if born in the colony; and after the expiration of sixty-two days, and until six months from birth, births may still be registered, on payment of a fee of 10s. 6d. The name of the child may be registered without fee at the time of registering its birth, or the name may be registered at any time within twelve months after the child's birth, on payment of a fee of 2s. 6d. Immigrants can have a child registered within six months after their arrival in the colony.

## VACCINATION.

By an Act of the General Assembly, passed on the 14th December, 1863, provision was made for dividing each province of the Colony into districts for the purpose of vaccination, and appointing in each a Medical Officer to perform the process of vaccination. Convenient places have been fixed in each district where the Medical Officer attends, and the days and hours of attendance at each place are from time to time notified.

It is the duty of every parent to take his child, within six months of its birth, to the appointed Medical Officer, or to some qualified medical practitioner, for the purpose of having vaccination administered; and on the eighth day following to take it back again for inspection.

For breach of the law a penalty not exceeding forty shillings is provided, and this fine may be recovered before any bench of magistrates.

If the child be properly vaccinated, the Medical Officer or practitioner is to give a certificate of the fact. If the child be unfit to endure the process, or be not susceptible, another certificate is to be given accordingly, which will clear the parent of the consequences.

The Registrar of Births for the district is to receive a copy of each certificate of successful vaccination from the Medical Officer, and to enter the fact opposite the name of the child in his register.

On the ordinary registration of the birth of a child the Registrar will warn the parent of the law. And in cases where a child, born before the passing of the Act, or from any cause, remains unvaccinated, on notice from the Medical Officer, the child must be produced for the purpose within two months, under a penalty of forty shillings.

Inoculation with the virus of small pox is a crime punishable by a penalty of ten pounds.

\* The word "parent" means "father, mother, or other person having the care, nurture, or custody of the child."

## GARDEN CALENDAR.

These, as they change, Almighty Father, these  
Are but the varied God. The rolling year  
Is full of Thee. Forth in the pleasing Spring  
Thy beauty walks, Thy tenderness and love.  
Wide flush the fields: the softening air is balm;  
Echo the mountains round; the forest smiles;  
And every sense and every heart is joy.  
Then comes Thy glory in the summer months,  
With light and heat refulgent. Then Thy sun  
Shoots full perfection through the swelling year;  
And oft Thy voice in dreadful thunder speaks;  
And oft at dawn, deep noon, or falling eve,  
By brooks and groves, in hollow whisp'ring gales,  
Thy beauty shines in Autumn, unconfin'd,  
And spreads a common feast for all that lives.  
In Winter, awful Thou! with clouds and storms  
Around Thee thrown, tempest o'er tempest roll'd,  
Majestic darkness! On the whirlwind's wing,  
Riding sublime, Thou bidd'st the world adore,  
And humblest nature with Thy southern blast.—THOMSON.