sump. The skin is then attached to a temporary framework of osier twig, and is allowed to dry, the flesh and fatty substances being carefully scraped (grained). When dry, it is folded into a square sheet, the fur turned inwards, and the bundle, containing about ten to twenty skins, tightly pressed and corded, and is ready for transportation. During the hunt, regardless of Indian vicinity, the eastern trapper wanders far and near in search of "sign." His nervous frame ever be in a state of tension, and his mind ever present at his call. His eagle eye sweeps round the country, and in an instant detects any foreign appearance. A tortied leaf, a blade of grass pressed down; the unaccustomed ear of the wild animals, the flight of birds, are all pantographic to him written in nature's legible hand and plaintext language. All the wits of the subtlest savage are called into play to gain an advantage over the wily woodsman; but with the natural instinct of primitive man, the white hunter has the advantages of a civilized mind, and, time provided, seldom fails to outwit, under equal advantages, the cunning savage.—*Ruxton's Adventures in Mexico and the Rocky Mountains.*

CURIOUS RUSSIAN GUILD.—There is another body of individuals connected with trade called "artelschika," the singularity of whose vocation and employment deserves a few words. A number of serfs unite themselves into a club or company, termed an artel, and hire themselves to merchants as messengers and confidential counting house servants, the artel holding itself responsible for the character of each individual, and for any loss which may be sustained through him, and forming thus, as it were, a kind of Mutual Honesty Company. As there are no banks through which payments can be made and bills honoured, every merchant is compelled to be his own banker; all money transactions, the coins—which are effected by various denominations of notes, and by hard cash, principally of silver—are onerous, both as regards the trust to be reposed in the bearer, and the weight of the coin to be transferred. This business devolves entirely on the artelchik, who counts the the coin into bags, and arranges the notes into parcels according to their value, marking the envelopes with his initials in proof of their correctness. This account is received by the merchant without any further check or examination, and the sums are repaid away in the same state without fear or hesitation. These men are poor, and their pay is slight, considering the nature of their employment and the temptations to which they are exposed; and yet a defalcation or a breach of trust is rarely known.—*Thompson's Life in Russia.*

YOUNG MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.—In Marvell's account of the pensioner parliament, under the head Greenborough, this malt-house was says:—"James Herbert, Esq., is but fifteen years old, but son-in-law to the lord-treasurer, and, therefore, of age to dispose of the people's own money." Lord Torrington is reported by the more grave chronicler, Anchitell Grey, to have been but fourteen when he took a part in the debate. On his father's death, the boy-duke was no longer permitted to sit. "Yesterday was wholly taken up in a debate concerning ordering a new writ for Devonshire, in the place of the young Duke of Albemarle, and, being controverted, whether he, though a peer, being not of age to sit in the lords' house, did not yet retain the right which he had of sitting during his father's life-time; but the house ordered at last a new writ to issue in his place." To preclude such "youngers," as the puritans contemptuously termed them, to prevent all inexperienced novices in future from intruding themselves into the seats of the elders, the aged Fryone, learned in all the law in parliament, and indignant at being thrust aside to make room for grand-children, levelled a hearty pamphlet against the abuse, entitled, "Minores in Senatu," and a med with a verse of Scripture:—"For, behold, the Lord of hosts doth take away from Jerusalem the stay and the staff, the prudent man and the ancient, the honourable man, and the counsellor, and the eloquent orator, and I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them." The grim lawyer proved incontrovertibly, that minors, in the eye of the law, are deemed incapable to manage their own estates; that all their grants and releases are void, or voidable, when they attain full age; that the king is not bound to send his writ of summons to appear under age, that he cannot be a minister or member of corporation before twenty-four, or even a common council-man till twenty-one; and he argues bitterly, that babes in law ought not to be elders of our realm. "Every senator ought to be indued with these qualifications, which our infants usually want; first, with deep, solid wisdom and gravity; secondly, sound judgment; thirdly, mature experience; fourthly, impartial justice! The civil and common law repute the age of discretion to be twenty-five. Solomon says, 'Childhood and youth are vanity.' I am sure that they are so in our parliaments!"—*Townsend's House of Commons.*

☞ THE MONTREAL COURIER is published daily during the six business months of the year, viz.; from the 1st of May to the 1st of November, and the other six months tri-weekly, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Subscription, six dollars per annum, payable in advance.

☞ THE EVENING COURIER (bi-weekly) is published on Sunday and Thursday mornings, in time for the Mails, at the low price of TWELVE DOLLARS per annum, payable in advance.

☞ All LETTERS must be post-paid, or else the postage will be deducted from the amount sent.

☞ MONTREAL CORRESPONDENCE solicited from all parts of the Continent of America. If made use of, the person transmitting the information will be liberally recompensed.

THE COURIER.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1851.

The Mechanics' Festival.

The Annual Festival of the Mechanics' Institute came off on Tuesday evening last, with great eclat, in the large Halls of the Bonsecours Market. The platform for visitors and spectators was placed in the usual situation, on the front wall of the Eastern Hall, and opposite to it was placed a stage for the Band. In addition to the Military Band, there was a Piano-Forte and a Melodion, (the latter from the Manufactory of Mr. S. Warren.) Mr. Anderson, and a party of musical gentlemen, contributed much to the gratification of the company, by the performance of a selection of the most popular glees, &c., Mr. Millard presiding at the Piano-Forte. The Hall was tastefully decorated with evergreens, flags, and banners, and the walls were hung with pictures, for the most part the work of Montreal Artists. Around part of this room, were placed the tables on which were arranged various specimens of the industrial skill of our fellow-citizens. The following is a list of some of the most prominent articles exhibited:—A pair of trowsers, of fashionable cut, from Reeves, Notre Dame Street; crackers, from Clark Fitts; specimens of picture framing and gilding, from Carlisle, Notre Dame Street, and another of a miniature frame of carved wood to imitate ivy leaves—a very elegant piece of workmanship; specimens of book-binding from the establishment of Messrs. R. & A. Millet, St. Francois Xavier Street, which were really splendid, and attracted universal notice and admiration; of upholstery, from Tweedy; bird cages, from Rice; designs for buildings, from Footner; steamboat model, from Jeffery, Quebec; plans for a Court House, from Buchanan and Scobell, and the roof of the Court House, modelled by Scobell; hydraulic machines, stump extractor, pumps, and corn-sheller, from Hagar, St. Paul Street; Canadian axes, scales, stoves, &c., from C. P. Ladd; door knobs, locks, &c., from Bryson & Ferriers; brass cocks of various kinds, a peculiar description of brass bell, &c., from Garth; hats, from Thompson; cottonicre, from Ashton; ruling pens, from Ruthven; shoes, from Harold; corks, from Pearson; card-printing machine, from *Herald* Office; Mexican curiosity, from Mr. Potts; a fancy sleigh, with eagle's head, wings, &c., and seats for several persons, Mr. A. McFarlane, &c., &c.

His Worship the Mayor took the Chair at eight o'clock, and "God Save the Queen" having been sung, he opened the proceedings by a few remarks, after which—

Mr. Bernard, the President of the Institute, addressed the audience, and was followed by Messrs. Bristow, Cartier, McGinn, Ostell, and Leeming; the latter gentleman communicating the fact, among other interesting remarks on the approaching Exhibition in London, that in consequence of a request preferred by him, the Royal Commission has consented to allow all the articles of Canadian manufacture to be placed in the Crystal Palace by themselves—a request which has been refused to the exhibitors from all other countries; and the granting of which could not fail to have the effect of displaying to the best possible advantage both the industrial and artistic efforts of our adopted country. With regard to the Industrial Exhibitions which may be held in Montreal in future, Mr. Leeming observed, that there was every probability that the number of visitors would be materially increased; in proof of which he referred to his correspondence with many of the most distinguished public men in the United States, several of whom, we understood him to say, have announced their intention of being present at the next Exhibition held here.

After the Addresses were concluded, dancing commenced, and was continued to a late hour.

The supper, a very excellent one, was provided by Mr. King.

We observe that the Hon. Mr. Egerton, who was for some time in Canada on the Staff of the Governor-General, has been promoted to a Lieutenancy and Captaincy in his Regiment, the Grenadier Guards.

GUGY v. FERRES *et al.*—After a trial of five days, the Jury returned a verdict of £25 damages against the defendant.

By a Circular from the Secretary of War, we learn that well educated and deserving soldiers are in future to be selected to fill the situations of clerks in the various military offices on foreign stations. The men so selected will have the rank and pay of serjeants, with clothing, fuel, lights, lodgings, and rations, and the prospect of promotion to the senior clerkships. This is a great boon to the army, and will, we should suppose, be an economical arrangement for the country.

The Committee of the New York State Legislature, appointed to consider and report on the propriety of bridging Lake Champlain, have done so in favor of the project, and a Bill has been introduced for granting the power to do so.

Messrs. M. V. Hayes and Plamondon were admitted to the practice of the law, in Lower Canada, at a meeting of the Examining Committee of the Council of the Lower Canada Bar, on Wednesday, the 6th inst.

The following excellent article from the New York *Post*, on the Carolina difficulty, will be read with interest:—

INTERCOURSE OF BRITISH SUBJECTS.—The correspondence between Mr. Mathew, the British Consul at Charleston and Governor Means of South Carolina, which was first made public a few days since in the *Evening Post*, has been extensively copied and much discussed in the journals. The Richmond *Whig* says, that "it appears irregular in a Foreign Consul to make in the name of his Government any complaint whatever to the authorities of a State." Other Whig journals severely reprimand Mr. Mathew for entering into a negotiation with a single State of the Confederacy, and add, that our Government would best consult its own dignity, by requiring the British Government to recall him.

Those who thus talk, must have either forgotten, or have never informed themselves, of what has already passed between our Government and that of Great Britain, on this subject. It was not long since that the British Cabinet addressed a remonstrance to the President of the United States, against the imprisonment of colored subjects of Great Britain in South Carolina, and demanded redress. Mr. Clayton, then Secretary of State, replied that this was a matter with which the Federal Government had nothing to do—it was the affair of South Carolina. The British Government, being thus referred to South Carolina, instructed its Consul to apply for redress to that State. If anybody is in fault for this proceeding, it is our own Government, which declared itself incompetent to meddle in the matter, and sent Lord Palmerston to complain to the State which passed the obnoxious law. If our Government should now ask that the agent charged with making this complaint shall be recalled in disgrace, the man who asks it would be deemed deserve to be put in Bedlam.

A tradesman presents himself, with a bill, at the house of one of our rich merchants, who examines the paper and says: "It is no affair of mine, you must look to my son here, who is responsible for anybody in." The tradesman presents the bill to the son for payment, and immediately the merchant turns the tradesman out of doors for asking the young man to pay the bill, instead of presenting it to the head of the house. This is the sort of conduct which is held up as a pattern to the present Administration by the journals of the Whig party.

If it be irregular in a Consul to complain to the authorities of a State concerning an act of injustice committed against one of his countrymen, the Government of the country should have prevented the necessity of the complaint, by taking the matter into its own hands. It should have treated the infraction of the treaty with Great Britain, by the imprisonment of her subjects, as a usurpation, as a direct violation of the laws of the land, and have provided for its punishment. If it fails to do this, the British Government must seek redress where it can. But after all there is no irregularity in the proceeding.

The Consul is accredited to certain States, the Minister to the Federal Government; the duties and rights of the Consul are to communicate with the local authorities, on all matters affecting the personal rights of his countrymen, in which the local authorities are concerned. When the act complained of is that of the General Government, it is the Minister's province to demand redress; when it is the act of a Municipality, or any other local authority, the Consul may very properly interfere. If the citizen of Great Britain is unlawfully imprisoned by the authorities of this city, it is the business of the British Consul here to intercede for his liberation. If the Common Council pass an ordinance injuriously affecting the rights of British subjects resident here, it is his duty to remonstrate against it.

If a wrong be done to any of our citizens by the local Government of Cuba, our Consul would deserve to be removed at once if he did not remonstrate. If the local legislature of the British Colony of Jamaica, should adopt any ordinance with a view of doing the American trade a mischief, our Consul in that Island would be unworthy of his place if he were to let it pass without an attempt to procure its repeal. In the present case it is proper for the British Minister to apply to the Federal Government, because the acts complained of are a violation of the treaty between the two countries; and it is equally proper for the Consul at Charleston to complain, because it is a proceeding of the local authorities unjustly affecting the rights of his countrymen. There is yet another consideration which would make the demand for Mr. Mathew's dismissal an absurdity. He acted, it appears, under the instructions of his Government, and his Government cannot dismiss him for having fulfilled the orders he received.

We perceive that this correspondence has been referred in the Carolina Legislature to a Committee of Charleston and Georgetown members, chiefly lawyers, who are to take time to deliberate, and make their report in November next. Whether, in the meantime, the two countries shall get into a quarrel, in consequence of the execution of the laws depriving colored men of their liberty the moment they appear in a port of South Carolina, will depend on accident. It is a danger to which we are exposed at any moment in our relations with England and France. If any collision with either of these countries should arise in consequence of the South Carolina law, they would have a case for an appeal to the world, and to the lovers of liberty among their people, in which the public opinion of mankind would be against us.

The truth of this seems to have been very strongly felt even in South Carolina. No subject of equal interest has for a long time been brought before the Legislature of that State, and we might at first suppose that the Carolina Press would have made haste to lay a correspondence of so much importance before its readers. It was suppressed, however—wholly suppressed by the Carolina newspapers, and it was reserved for a Press at a distance from that State to give it to the country. The only inference we can draw from this is, that the people of that State are so little satisfied with the light in which it would place them before the world, that they fear to produce it to the public eye.

"Thus conscience doth make cowards of us all."

THE ADDISONIAN SOCIETY.—To-morrow evening a Lecture on the Natural History of Mollusca, will be delivered by Doctor Gibb, and we are confident that our readers who desire to attend will find it highly interesting.

We understand that the Committee have requested several gentlemen to lecture in French, and this must prove a great addition to the utility of this excellent Society.

Season and Single Tickets of admission for the French and English course may be obtained at the Stores of Messrs. Dawson, Chalmers, Bryson, and at the Door. Single Tickets, 7½d.; Season, 3s. 9d.

The Revising Committee of the City Council have struck off the Burgess Roll all the Electors rated at amounts insufficient for qualification by law, in the St. Antoine as well as other Wards.

There is a strike for wages among the contractors on the Great Western Railroad—the men demanding 3s. 9d. per day. Their conduct is so violent, that the Magistrates on the spot have been obliged to apply to Government for military assistance.

We learn with much pleasure that Jesse Joseph, Esq., has been appointed Belgian Consul in this city. His *exequatur* is not yet granted, owing we believe to some mistake in his name in the papers sent out.

Captain Harrison states, that the ice fields fallen in with by the Steamer Canada, near Halifax, were from three to ten feet thick. At one time he was obliged to put about, but finally made a push through, with a loss of nearly all his boats. Captain H. is of opinion that the *Atlantic* is safe.

THE YOUNG MEN'S CITY ASSEMBLIES.—This Association celebrates its agreeable entertainments every Thursday evening, in the spacious and well-arranged Ball Room of Corse's new building, Great St. James Street. The tickets of admission, we learn, have been fixed by the Managing Committee at a very moderate rate, so as to afford young gentlemen of the city generally an opportunity for that social recreation and agreeable interchange furnished by such a desirable arrangement. Mallet's Band forms a pleasing part of that enlivening accompaniment which gives so much life and animation to the Cotillon, the Quadrille, and the Polka.

MR. LYNE.—On Saturday evening next, the members of the Garrick Club purpose, at their Minerva Theatre, Shakspere's Tragedy of "Othello," for the benefit of this gentleman. We doubt not the public will manifest on this occasion their respect for, and appreciation of, Mr. Lyne's talents.

GARRICK CLUB.—The members of this Club performed to a highly respectable audience on Saturday evening last. The plays selected for the occasion were the "Bride of Lammermoor" and "A Husband Cut," both amusing light pieces. We do not agree with our contemporary, the Transcript, in his remarks regarding Captain Lovelace in the character of *Old Shekel*. So far from borrowing an air of age, we consider Mr. Lovelace an excellent representation of a weak, foolish old man; in addition to which, courtesy demands that some distinction should be made between the Amateur and professional Actor.

GRAND PROVINCIAL BONSPIEL.—We beg to remind our Curling friends, that the Bonspiel will be played this morning, on the Lower Basin of the Canal, foot of McGill Street.

We have been informed that this will be the finest "turn out" in the Curling way that has ever taken place in this city, there being already nearly 100 players on the list. All players to be on the ice at 10 o'clock, A. M. The Committee have arranged that Luncheon will be provided in Tilton's Bakery for the players.

SOIREE.—We have been requested to state that a public Soiree and Sale of Needlework will be held in the Lecture Room of the 2nd Congregational Church, Gosford Street, on Thursday evening, the 27th February. The proceeds to be applied to defraying the current expenses of public worship. Donations of work, &c., will be thankfully received, and may be sent to Mrs. Barber, Little St. James Street; Mrs. Weller, St. Paul Street; Mrs. McDonald, Sanguinet Stree; Mrs. Smithers, DeBleury Street. Doors open at half-past six o'clock. Tea and Refreshments will be provided. Tickets of admittance, 1s. 3d.

The Committee of Management of the Mechanics' Institute, beg to acknowledge the receipt of ten pounds from His Worship the Mayor—E. R. Fabre, Esq.—a second donation to the Funds of the Institute.

The Directress and Lady Managers of the University Lying-in Hospital acknowledge, with thanks, the sum of £1 10s. from a Special Jury, by the hands of Thomas Workman, Esq.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—"Humanitas," Sherbrooke, must send us his name, it being against our rules to insert any correspondence without the confidential communication of the author's name.

Life Assurance.

MONTREAL, February 12, 1851.

To the Editor of the MONTREAL COURIER:

SIR,—A very important feature in insuring one's life, is the anticipated *reduction on the annual premium*, held out by Insurance Companies in the most pleasing of all phrases, "participation of profits."

I have been insured for nearly 12 years, and lived in the hope that at the end of ten years, ("participations in profits" are declared every five years,) instead of paying £10 sterling *per annum*, I might require to pay only £9 per annum! What is my surprize when, on referring to the payments for ten years past, I find that I have apparently participated in losses—the annual payments, *subsequent to the first payment*, having exceeded the £10 sterling, without any reason being assigned, or any intimation whatever made to me on the subject. Under such circumstances, *it might be advisable* for every citizen whose life has been insured for 5 years and upwards, *and a participator in the profits*, to examine his receipts, and ascertain whether on and after the fifth year he has paid a smaller amount of annual premium. I shall be glad to receive a communication from any one who has been so fortunate. The Editor of the *Courier* will be kind enough to take charge of such for me, and give my name to the party leaving such, if required.

A "bonus" of *one penny* sterling per £100—say on £500, *at the end* of 5 years, would amount to 2s. 1d.—two shillings and one penny!! Consequently, supposing that you paid £10 premium, at the end of 5 years, *the capital management of the Company* would make you a present of *two shillings and one penny!!* and for the next five years you would only require to pay £9 17s. 11d. sterling, instead of £10. "*Participation of profits*," *indeed!!!* I have not even realized a bonus of 2s. 1d.

I am,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
CITIZENS' RIGHTS.

NEW YORK, February 11.

The *Southerner*, from Charleston, and the *Florida*, from Savannah, arrived this morning, bringing papers in advance of the mail.

Many of the telegraphic lines leading to this city are badly deranged by the storm.

The intelligence from Washington indicates that the Administration is fully awake to the interesting position of Central American affairs. Chevalier Gomez, late Envoy to Rome, from the States of Guatemala and San Salvador, is in Washington. He has assumed the discharge of those States, and has addressed a long letter to Mr. Webster, in reference to the present condition of the nations of the Central American States. Mr. Webster replied in a letter, expressing the views of our Government on the subject. Chevalier Gomez has been treated with marked attention, both by the Secretary of State and Sir Henry Bulwer.

BALTIMORE, February 10.

Captain Wilson, of the unfortunate steamer *America*, says that his vessel broke in two before he left her.

WASHINGTON, February 10.

Sir H. Bulwer, it is probable, will shortly resign and return to England, on account of his infirm health.

CHARLESTON, February 9.

The schooner Polly, Hinds, arrived at this port, reports having conveyed to Key West 40 of the passengers and crew of the brig *Martha Singer*, which was wrecked about the middle of January, on the Quitasueno Reef in the Caribbean Sea.

NEW ORLEANS, February 11.

The steamship *Alabama* sailed for Vera Cruz, but got aground, and was so much injured as to be compelled to return for repairs.—The steamer *Ogdin*, bound for this port, sunk with cotton on board. Boat and cargo a total loss.—It is reported that the steamer *Belmont* is sunk at Bagnanca by coming in contact with the *Magnolia*, Captain Grant. J. Ferguson, a child of Mr. Goodhue, the 3rd Engineer, and one or two others are said to have been lost.—Jenny Lind has met with immense success here. The proceeds of the first two concerts were over $20,000!

SECOND DESPATCH.—The magnificent steamer *Natchez*, bound from this place to Memphis, with a heavy freight and a number of passengers, came in collision on the 8th instant with the steamer *Magnolia* coming down. The *Natchez* sank immediately, and it is supposed that over 30 passengers were lost, including several belonging to Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia.

The effervescence occasioned by the gold news at Paris, has driven the French Government to appoint a Commission to inquire into the alleged denunciation of gold bullion as compared with paper, and to advise on the question of the expediency of a gold coin in France, that is, depriving gold coin of its ancient privilege of being used as a legal tender in payment equally with silver. Of this Commission, M. Thiers has been named the Reporter, but it is not believed that his report will recommend any change of the present law.

The Revolutionary Press of 1850.

Opinions upon what is called the Liberty of the Press, will vary very greatly. When Gregory the Pope Gregory XVI. made known his opinion to the world, that the liberty of the Press could never be sufficiently execrated and detested, he but gave utterance to the thought of every rogue and hypocrite on earth.

Very naturally will every man of crooked devices, who acts from corrupt motives, who is influenced by evil desires, and who has no other than base and selfish purposes, rail against a formidable argus-eyed power, that threatens at every moment to look into his dark deeds, and to hold him up to well-merited scorn and indignation.

The Press of any one year will generally be found, with us, the index of the public mind for that year; and the healthy or diseased state of public feeling, the calm good sense of the nation, or its opposite, will very correctly be shown, by a table of its literature for the twelve months preceding.

The numbers of the publications that have issued from the London Press alone, may be estimated at four thousand four hundred; and they may be thus classed, according to their proportions in numbers:—Divinity—Novels—Law—Biography—Travels—School subjects—Political subjects—Poetry—History—Essays—Medical subjects—Architecture—Classics—Modern Languages—Works especially illustrated—Music—Mathematics—Geography—Agriculture—Natural History—The Arts and Sciences generally—Botany—Military and Naval Works—Chemistry—Sporting—Engineering—Painting—Archæology—Astronomy—Geology—Natural Philosophy—Trade. These vary greatly in their proportions; the number of separate publications under the first head exceeding a thousand, the number under the last not exceeding a score. The Papal question has contributed not a little to the subjects connected with the Bible and the Church; one hundred and eighty publications on that question having issued from the Press during the past month! Luckily there are above forty thousand pulpits in the land; and where so much can be delivered orally, and weekly, and at no cost, it is a great saving of very much that would otherwise most certainly appear in type, to the injury of a great deal of paper, and to the injury, perhaps, of the character for good sense and discretion of very many a writer.

Of the better class of the Theological works, throughout the past year, we would willingly make selections. But the very large number of publications of this character, proves incontestibly the general religious feeling of the people; books of this description being in greater request than any others, and finding at all seasons, and among all classes, willing purchasers.

The works of fiction come the next under our observation, and these number nearly five hundred throughout the year. The difficulty in this case is selection, and the selection, to be just, should be made from each class, romantic, historic, and conventional, and religious. Thirty of these we might expressly mention, had we space for their titles.

The large number of two hundred and fifty books upon Law, proves the care that is taken by the Legislature and the Lawyers, for the protection of our property, and at what a large cost, and by what complicated machinery, we hold to the possession of such property as we have. Lawyers, like Printers, will find, however, that he of Rome has very unconsciously to himself, and very unintentionally, provided great additional employment for them through the present year. The old Laws that must be searched into, the new Laws to be enacted, and the dovetailing these Laws into the present system, with all the legal reasons for or against any new Laws at all, will provide work for many pens, and hands, and minds that have long needed work and the reward it brings with it.

We are pleased to find Biography so high on the list, since, there are always works that teach practically something or other that is good—something that is pleasurable to read. It is generally a good report of somebody; it gives a pleasing insight into character; and it makes us the more happy in ourselves, when we find how much in so many cases may be said in favor of others.

The works of Travels are again among the most instructive portions of our literature; and above two hundred of these, during the past year, serve the very useful purpose of making us acquainted with every country and people on the habitable globe. We are rapidly acquiring the fullest possible information of the productions of every land, and the peculiarities and characteristics of their inhabitants. This knowledge conveyed to us, freights ships with cargoes, and puts Missions into movement, and emigration and adventurers in a right direction. And of all the works that are published, none are more practically useful to the laboring population, than books of this description being in greater request than any others, and finding at all seasons, and among all classes, willing purchasers.

The works of fiction come the next under our observation, and these number nearly five hundred throughout the year. The difficulty in this case is selection, and the selection, to be just, should be made from each class, romantic, historic, and conventional, and religious. Thirty of these we might expressly mention, had we space for their titles.

The large number of two hundred and fifty books upon Law, proves the care that is taken by the Legislature and the Lawyers, for the protection of our property, and at what a large cost, and by what complicated machinery, we hold to the possession of such property as we have. Lawyers, like Printers, will find, however, that he of Rome has very unconsciously to himself, and very unintentionally, provided great additional employment for them through the present year. The old Laws that must be searched into, the new Laws to be enacted, and the dovetailing these Laws into the present system, with all the legal reasons for or against any new Laws at all, will provide work for many pens, and hands, and minds that have long needed work and the reward it brings with it.

We are pleased to find Biography so high on the list, since, there are always works that teach practically something or other that is good—something that is pleasurable to read. It is generally a good report of somebody; it gives a pleasing insight into character; and it makes us the more happy in ourselves, when we find how much in so many cases may be said in favor of others.

The works of Travels are again among the most instructive portions of our literature; and above two hundred of these, during the past year, serve the very useful purpose of making us acquainted with every country and people on the habitable globe. We are rapidly acquiring the fullest possible information of the productions of every land, and the peculiarities and characteristics of their inhabitants. This knowledge conveyed to us, freights ships with cargoes, and puts Missions into movement, and emigration and adventurers in a right direction. And of all the works that are published, none are more practically useful to the laboring population, then