

and require no care whatever in their cultivation. In the event of a dry autumn when other crops fail, water they are always to be found in vigorous health. Vegetables, which succeed most admirably upon the comparatively heavy soils some few miles north of Toronto, are very rarely to be seen. Lucerne is also well adapted to the Lacustrine climate of Western Canada, attaining dimensions far exceeding its average size in France and Italy.

Arts and Manufactures.

AFRICAN ARTS AND MANUFACTURES

Travellers in Africa all concur in one important particular, namely, that the natives of that continent exhibit a remarkable degree of genius, and display in their numerous manufactured articles such a knowledge of mechanics as to agreeably surprise all who have heard of or been privileged to behold their handiwork.

Iron ore of superior quality is found in immense quantities, and from it are made, by the untaught natives, ornamental and useful articles, such as spears, arrows, rings, chains, hoes, bracelets, &c. A small but regular amount of this material, made into a peculiar shape, is called a "bar," and appears to be the standard of value by which their currency is regulated.

They are exceedingly skilful in the tanning and manufacture of leather. Their armlets, cases, spears and dagger sheaths, whips, bridles, pouches, powder flasks, sandals, boots, &c., are made with remarkable neatness.

In addition to these may be named, their war-horns made from the tusks of elephants and other animals, their musical instruments—the strings of the "banjo" being formed from the fibres of trees. Their bags for carrying materials, and baskets of all sizes and descriptions, are wrought with great symmetry and beauty from sea grass and the leaves of their innumerable and useful trees, plants, &c. The palm tree, says a traveller, "is applied by them to three hundred and sixty five uses. Huts are thatched with palm leaves, its fibres are used for fishing tackle, ropes, sieves, twine, &c., a rough cloth is made from the inner bark, the fruit is roasted, and is excellent, the oil serves for butter, and the wine is a favourite drink.

In some portions of Africa, they are exceedingly skilful in making canoes. These are dug out of trees, and are amazingly large. Some are capable of carrying from fifty to one hundred and fifty persons, besides ten or twelve hands to pull. Mats in abundance, of all kinds, sizes, and qualities, are manufactured, chiefly by the women. These mats are used for many purposes—to sleep on, partition off rooms, for bed-curtains, bags, carpets, &c.; the fine ones make nice table-covers, and are used for clothing. They look as if they were woven—are sometimes eight feet wide, and fifteen or twenty feet long.

Clothes are made in abundance; they are spun (without any wheel) from the native cotton, and woven in a strip from five to ten inches wide, then cut to the length they want the cloth, and sewed together. Various figures are made in weaving. The colors are handsome and permanent. Pottery made of clay is very common, and stands the fire as well as any other, the vessels are of all sizes, from a quart to twenty gallons. Hats, similar to the American palm-leaf summer hats, are made in various styles, and are much superior to the American article—more durable and fine.

In making clothes, the Mandingoes are very expert to cut and sew shirts and other kinds of garments, and in making their caps and robes.

Wooden spoons, of a neat, fine quality, are also produced, and bowls, fine and superior, from a pint to a half-barrel, neat and cheap. Wooden fish hooks are made, and much used, large fish-baskets, also, for catching fish. Many

of their green-grocery display much skill in their manufacture. Soap, good and cheap, is abundant. Jugs, bottles, bowls are made (earthen), and a multitude of other little things are common. Now mention, very ingenious and skilful.

The native African, it is to be understood, is naturally indolent, and although the various articles of labor here mentioned would perhaps convey the impression that they are an industrious people, yet the contrary is the fact.

What a market is here opened for the sale of our manufactures? Who can rightly calculate the amount of employment it would afford the operatives and workmen of our land to clothe her unnumbered millions and the enormous trade which she could afford us in the luxuries, and what we consider the necessities, of life, from her prolific tropical soil?

Well might the poet, speaking of Africa, exclaim

"Regions immense, unsearchable, unknown,
Black in the splendors of the solar zone,
A world of wonders—where creation seems
No more the work of Nature, but her dreams."

Miscellaneous.

A PORTRAIT FROM REAL LIFE.

We have seldom met with any thing more graphic and telling than the subjoined. It is to me rare, and his off in an admirable spirit, a species of proverb that is fearfully prevalent. Too many of the young and inexperienced mistake impudence for independence, and vulgarity for wit. They imagine, too, that to be manly, is to be profligate, and thus they boast of vices and irregularities—indirectly, it is true—as if they thought that by the indulgence of such weakness and error, elevation and importance were attained. They fancy, too, that age is ever associated with imbecility, while youth is not only fresh and vigorous, but that it possesses extraordinary powers of discrimination. Thus they lose all sense of respect for their seniors in years, and by presumption, impertinence and insolence, offend good taste, violate good morals, and excite the pity if not contempt of the calm and reflecting observer. The subject, however, is one that cannot be adequately expatiated upon in a brief paragraph. We may allude to it again, and in the meanwhile we invite the attention of the interested, and the class is by far too numerous, to the following:

THE CITY BOY-MAN.—Boys of the present age, we congratulate you on your extraordinary precocity! We rejoice to see you advanced so immeasurably above your degenerate forefathers. Punning infants, as they were, engaged in the depreciable and unmanly games of cricket and marbles, you, with far sublimer ideas, look with disdain upon them, and, staking about with hat, cane, and cigar, ape the manners, and adopt the conversation of maturity. How commendable! Boydom has passed away in the city—and forever. Never again shall we hear the merry laugh, or shrill whistle, as engaged in some exciting sport, the boy gave vent to his joy. Not in boxing, not in squirrel-hunting, does boyhood now take delight, but, with an affected stammer, and with ugly-strapped pantaloons, and kids ready to crack at the least muscular exertion, you behold him gallantly securing some little delicate Miss to her French school, or, with the most perfect nonchalance, amuse his leisure hours in enveloping his head in tobacco smoke, or imbibing draughts of villainous fire-water.

It is an unanswerable fact, that youths at the age of fifteen, from the misrule—or no rule—of parents or some other cause, labour under the singular delusion, that in experience, ability, and general attainments, they far excel their fathers. As for their grandfathers—they were a set of ignoramuses! So strongly is this idea impressed upon their minds that no opportunity is allowed to escape without its being manifested. They give their opinion boldly upon every occasion,

and denigrate the man whose judgment unfortunately happens to conflict with their own, as a fool. Their intellect is grosslyly elaborate but in bad taste, and a swarming air is invariably assumed, which is easily outdone by any allusion to it.

The City Boy-Man talks much and loudly about his prowess in pugilistic encounters, and is continually threatening to "punch" severely some man double his age and size. A Sunday never passes without his being seen upon the steps of some church, cane in hand, familiarly waiting at every lady that passes. His conquests with the sex are innumerable. In fact, his accomplishments are irresistible.

His presence—whenever he may be—he invariably makes known by loud demonstrations. He is the best critic of the Drama, probably in the country. Schlegel and Hazlitt are nothing to him. His entire conversation consists of an interminable enumeration of the number of cherry-cobblers he imbibed the preceding night, the late hour at which he retired, the headache he is now suffering under, and his firm determination to give up all dissipation.

He is the greatest bore in the world, throwing himself upon you at the most unreasonable time and place, and perseveringly adhering to you, in spite of the strongest bias and insinuations. A scandalous story is a perfect god-send to him, which he enthusiastically details, elaborately embellished, among his companions. He under stands horses thoroughly, and knows the pedigree and "time" of all the fast-horses in the country.—His taste in liquors is also exquisite and unimpeachable.

In fact, the City Boy-Man is "pumped up" in every thing, and is fully entitled to most profound—no, not detestation, but esteem and admiration.—*Drawing Room Journal.*

Limitation of Human Faculties.—How to use our fellow men, is a great discovery; how to abuse them is an easy matter which every dunce may learn. But to avail oneself of the virtues and abilities of others, is a happy faculty, possessed by few. Yet it is this knowledge, or the want of it, which makes much of the difference among men. Without it, a man may be every inch a man, but possesses only a one-man power after all. With it he becomes a great machine combining and controlling the natural powers of many. Such a person is, therefore, more than a match for any individual, however great, who stands alone.

Men are not great in every thing, most have but one faculty that is prominent. For that they become remarked, and thereupon the credulous and easy world attribute to them many, if not most others, however repugnant. This is a dangerous mistake, and has led to memorable disasters. Generals have been selected for the figure, which they have made in drawing rooms, and men have been promoted to dictate in political economy and the laws of nations, because they successfully commanded armies in time of war, when all laws are silent, or extravagance and reckless waste are subordinate to victory. One strong faculty, so far from pre-supposing, frequently puts a negative upon others, (or according to an affected phrase lately borrowed from the lawyers,) ignores them.

How strange it is, that one should be commissioned Secretary of the Navy, because he is a historian, or a novelist, or made a governor for having had the luck to make a fortune first. Even Mr. Jefferson's philosophy was, in the time of it, and by many people now, regarded as a disqualification to him, so far as it went, but he escaped at last upon the ground, that it did not go very far. Is there any thing in successful shyness which qualifies one to be an editor, or give an opinion on finance? Would it be discreet to appoint an eminent farmer to be Collector of the port, or an importing merchant to the presidency over a board of agriculture, or the committee on manufactures in the House? Is a man of accessibility a capable critic of Webster's Dictionary, be-

