

however, kept up for many years, until at length the native priests were tamed into vigorous opposition, and so prevailed with the Government as to procure a proclamation forbidding under pain of death the practice or profession of the Portuguese religion. As yet no Englishman had set foot on the Japanese soil, but in the year 1591 William Adams, a warm hearted genuine, unsophisticated, Englishman hired himself for chief pilot of a fleet of five sail of Hollanders, made ready by the chief of their Indian Company. The fleet set sail from the Texel on the 24th of June, and after serious calamities they reached the Straits of Magellan, where they wintered. Having again set sail, and suffered a variety of encounters, the ships lost sight of each other and never again met. Of the five ships that left Holland only one remained, yet they did not give up to despair, but determined to direct their course for Japan as they had learned from one Dirk Gerritson, who had been there with the Portuguese, that woollen cloth was of great estimation in that island. On the 12th of April, 1600, they came close to Bungo on the island of Kiuosoo. Here for the present we will leave the good English pilot having first recorded the account which he gave of himself. "Your Worshipps shall understand that I am a Kentish man, born in a town called Gillingham, two English miles from Rochester, and one mile from Chatham, where the Queen's ships do lie; and that, from the age of twelve years I was brought up in Littlebourne, near London, being apprentice twelve years to one master, Nicholas Diggins, and have served in the place of master and pilot in her Majesty's ships, and about eleven or twelve years served the worshipful company of the Barbary merchants until the Indian traffic from Holland began, in which Indian traffic I was desirous to make a little experience of the small knowledge which God had given me."

Literary Notices.

GRAMMAIRE ANGLAISE D'APRES LE SYSTEME D'OLLENDORFF, A L'USAGE DES FRANCAIS, PAR Charles Badois.—New York: D. Appleton & Co., Toronto: A. H. Armour & Co.

It is in human nature to be exceedingly acute in divining the future (or rather to suppose that it is so) while events transpiring at the very moment are passed over as if of no importance. At present every body talks of a prospective French invasion, calculates its probability, and settles to their own satisfaction the question whether there will be one or not, and none draw attention to the actual invasion which is now, yea has been for many years, taking place. The insidious foe is in our cities and in our villages, and that in overwhelming numbers. But do not mistake our meaning. Louis Napoleon is too cunning to land his red-breeched soldiers in broad day light on the shores of England, He takes another and a surer plan to effect his purpose, and if it is not counteracted speedily, we will not answer for its consequences. *He bribes the book-sellers!* Do we not find book after book issued from the press for the avowed purpose of disseminating the French language, and, as a matter of course, preparing us for French domination? Allow me to tell you gentle reader, that it is a diabolical plot, yea an infernal machine, which does more damage to Her Majesty's loyal subjects than a dozen such paltry affairs as that of Marseilles would do in our most crowded thoroughfares. You may say that though publishers publish and book-sellers offer for sale, yet the people need neither buy nor study. We say that the books are bought, and that they are studied, and the fruit is already seen. Tell us what means "augvlypes?" and what "coodytaw?" Who has not been at a "sawawy?" who has not heard of a "dishnay?" But are matters irreparable? Can we

not repay in the same coin? We think that it is worth attempting, and so also have thought the publishers of the book of which the title stands at the head of this article. They deserve the heartfelt thanks of all loyal subjects for it, and whoever sends a copy of this paper to the Prince-President to the end that he may forthwith prohibit by decree the entry of the aforesaid book into France, let him be branded as a traitor to his country and to his tongue. If Mr. Badois resided in Havre instead of Hartford, he soon would be on his way to the salubrious coasts of Gulano. And who would blame the French Government for it, when they are told that in this book M. Badois professes to teach the English language in 30 lessons. And will you blame him too. Let those who doubt, buy the book, and in order to be convinced of the fact, forthwith present it to some benighted Frenchman who can speak only his own language.

Seriously, we believe this "Grammaire Anglaise" to be well adapted for its purpose. Though written by a Frenchman the English portion is very correct and the observations and rules are generally concise and to the point. We could point out two or three errors in the exercises on pronunciation but these are not to be wondered at when we consider that so much variance with each other is often found in the best English pronouncing dictionaries. For instance he represents the vowel sounds in "way" and "want" as the same, and by classing "plaid" with "mad" instead of with "maid" gives of a sound which is incorrect, though sometimes affectedly pronounced so. There is a key to the exercises, so that it may be used without a master.—*Aliquis.*

THE SNOW DROP.—November. Montreal: J. Armour Toronto: A. H. Armour & Co.

We have so often alluded, in terms of warmest commendation, to this neatly got up and exceedingly interesting Juvenile Magazine, that we need only say, the November number will be found equal to any of its predecessors, both as to illustration and variety of entertaining reading matter, happily prepared for that most important class of society for which the Snow Drop is provided. We are gratified that the Post Master General has so far modified the postage law as to allow this little miscellany to find its way to the homes and hearts of all our juvenile friends at a half-penny per number. The act may be looked upon by some as so far an injustice to other publications that others may value as highly as this one can be valued; but most persons will cheerfully acquiesce in the kind permission which enables so pleasing and instructive a work to be put into the hands of our children so easily. We do most unhesitatingly rejoice at the infraction of all laws that operate as a tax upon knowledge, and although we have not as yet been able to stir up the minds of the conductors of the press to the absolute necessity for an abolition of newspaper postage, we still live in the fondly cherished hope that the day is not far distant when that boon will be attained.

SCOBIE'S CANADIAN ALMANAC AND REPOSITORY OF USEFUL KNOWLEDGE, for 1853, Toronto: Hugh Scobie.

This valuable publication continues to maintain the high character it has earned in previous years, for accuracy and general usefulness. To the man of business it is essential, and the immense mass of information which it contains entitles it to a place in every family of the Province. Nearly one hundred pages of closely printed matter, most of which must

have been collected at great labour and expense, with a neatly engraved map, for the small sum of seven pence half-penny, cannot be otherwise regarded than as a miracle of cheapness, and highly creditable to the enterprising spirit of the indefatigable publisher.

GEM.

We sincerely appreciate the kindness of the friend who sent us the following extract, and as his research into literature, ancient and modern, is very abundant and increasing, may we indulge the hope that he will keep this little gem in mind, as our columns are open to all that tends to elevate and enoble the mind.

OLD LITERARY GEMS.—Why are not more gems from our early prose writers scattered over the country by the periodicals? Selections are so far from preventing the study of the entire authors, that they promote it. Great old books are not in every body's reach; and though I is better to know them thoroughly than to know them only here and there, yet it is a good work to give a little to those who have neither time nor means to get more. Let every book-worm when, in any fragrant scarce old tome, he discovers a sentence, a story, an illustration, that does his heart good, hasten to give it the widest circulation that News-papers and Magazines penny and half-penny can afford. Remember that,

"The worst avarice is that of sense"

HARTLEY COLERIDGE.

Arts and Manufactures.

PORTRAIT PAINTING.

Having a few leisure moments yesterday, we dropped into the studio of Mr. Anderson, 108 Yonge street who has lately made his appearance amongst us from the "Land o' Cakes." We were just anxious to see whether or no Mr. Anderson would be, from practical experience in our good city, able to demonstrate what we ourselves have often done in theory, that there is a wide field here already in Toronto for the prosecution of all that is useful and ornamental, if we set ourselves to work with a warm heart and a willing mind. Even a master of the Fine Arts, when he goes to a new locality, unless his name has already preceded him, heralded on the wings of fame may remain in obscurity for a while. See for instance the experience of Thorwaldsen, alluded to by Aliquis in his Biographical Calendar for this number. It was but a mere accident that retained him at Rome. In the present instance, Mr. Anderson came amongst us, so far as we know personally, unknown to Toronto; but we have every reason to believe he will not long continue so. We were glad to see on his easel a very excellent portrait of the Rev. Mr. Irvine, just about completed. It is the usual kit-kat size—36 x 29. The Rev. gentleman is robed in his pulpit gown and bands, and is represented as standing. His left hand is holding up the folds of his gown, and his right hand is rested on a quarto volume, the contents of which he would seem to have been consulting. There is a general warmth about the expression, and the countenance is finely irradiated by the intellectual fire which beams from the eye. The hands and fingers are admirably delineated. The drapery of the gown is well displayed. When fully finished off, we have no doubt that this will be a most effective specimen of artistic skill.

DENTIST INSTRUMENTS.

Melvin Jinks, of Wayland, N. Y., has invented a useful improvement on tunkeys for extracting teeth, the nature of which improvement consists in substituting for the fixed fulcrum, a rolling one, which lies against the gum and rolls on the key as it is twisted. The key is furnished with an additional claw for the purpose of catching the tooth on the same side as the fulcrum, and opposite to the ordinary hook claw. The object of these improvements is to enable the key to draw the tooth directly from the jaw, instead of