

and comprehensively unaided, from the most reliable sources, thus presenting a Family Paper in which all the members of the household can find something suited to their individual tastes and capacities.

Mechanics' Institutes, Public Libraries, Mutual Improvement Societies,—in short, every institution which has for its aim the good of man, will be warmly supported, as in our rising country, too much attention cannot be paid to the inculcation of sound moral precepts, so that the youthful mind may be thoroughly stored with useful knowledge.

Now Publications will be reviewed with candour, and the various departments of the paper will be all carefully arranged under their respective heads.

The size chosen for the Herald is convenient for binding, while it will be furnished at a price within the reach of all classes of the community. Interesting European News will be attended to, and no expense will be spared to make it a most agreeable and instructive family paper, worthy the patronage of all who rejoice in the extensive diffusion of useful knowledge.

To ADVERTISERS.—The Herald will be found a valuable medium for advertising. Its cheapness brings it within the reach of all. Its selections in Literature will make it always a welcome guest in the family circle; while its contributions, in Science and the Arts, will make it the companion of the Artizan and the Agriculturist, so that merchants and business men generally, will find it to their interest to announce themselves occasionally through its columns.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.—This is a feature almost exclusively peculiar to a few English publications. It is found to contribute very successfully to the interest of the reader, and is the means of affording much useful information. We have made arrangements, by means of which, this branch will be carefully attended to, and all enquiries answered so far as practicable so to do.

Education.

Education, a subject so often dilated upon, sometimes with slipshodness, at other times with gravity, is looked upon by many, as if it were a consummated in the mere learning to read and cipher. As if that that sacred aphorism, Train up a child in the way he should go—had no higher signification, than to give him the power to read at pleasure the lucubrations of his seniors, or to exercise his mind in grappling with the science of numbers. It has, however, a deeper and more important meaning, and one which, if not comprehended in what is given as education, leaves the pupil at the close of that career in possession of a power, alike dangerous to himself and his fellow beings. The gardener understands thoroughly the meaning of the word, Train.—He does not content himself with rearing his stocks, and grafting upon them that kind of scion, for which he wishes his trees to be characterized; but he stirs the earth at their roots, pinches the luxuriant branches, fosters, and quickens the backward shoots, and cleans their rind from all the insects, and impurities which would be fatal to their fructification. How different with the human plant! Many years ago

while conning the Primer, an advanced class was reciting a most pathetic lesson in poetry, and so deeply affected were two of the class, a girl, and a boy that they burst into tears at the touching recital. Who would have ventured to guess the predilection of the venerable master, that these pupils, if they lived, would grow up to be ornaments to society. But, alas! for the dimness of human vision. Ere a dozen years had rolled over their heads, the former had reeled from the paths of virtue, the latter was condemned to a dreary imprisonment for violating the laws of his country. Their education might be complete, but surely the training was lamentably deficient. The following extract from a Cincinnati paper brings to remembrance that distant time:—

Some twenty years ago, there dwelt in Cincinnati, two little boys, whose father's house adjoined each other. These two boys were considered bright, likely children, and so much did their dispositions harmonize, that they were almost inseparable companions—they played together, they read together, and it was the opinion of all the neighbours that they would make great men. Such was their steadiness and attention to their books, and their uniform good behaviour. But as these boys began to grow up, the neighbours saw the difference that is manifested in children's nature, simply by the example and precepts to be derived from their parents. One was the son of steady Quaker parents, who were at great pains to instil sound precept. The other's parents were indifferent people, with but little education, and consequently had but little conception of its vast benefits. The one knew and profited by the advantage of good society; the other, being allowed to follow the immature impulses of youth, fell into the company of young

Time passed on, and these young men had passed their legal age by half a dozen years.—The son of the Quaker parents is one of the first editors in this country. He is considered the ablest writer in the state in which he lives.—He has received a high literary degree from one of our Universities, and is now engaged, at the request of the first botanist of the age, to write for his new work upon the Botany of the West. He is the editor of the *Davenport (Iowa) Gazette*.—The other young man was recently hung for murder.

What a lesson is taught us in the history of these two boys! The one who has suffered the most ignominious of deaths, possessed as fine intellect as the other. We knew Howard Slaughter well. A brighter or more amiable boy never lived, but bad raising started him on an evil way, and alcohol finished it. His last words on the gallows were these.—"Beware of liquor; it has brought me to this!"

Toronto Mechanics' Institute.

On the evening of Friday se'ennight, the Rev. Dr. Burns delivered a Lecture in the Mechanics' Institute on the "Dawn of English Literature." The lecture displayed deep research and minute acquaintance with English Literature in its various phases. Its composition showed that the Doctor was no stranger to the beauties of style. The opinions of those who trace the early literature of England to the Druids were considered, and reasons given for distrusting the justice of those opinions, while on the other hand, the notion of an exclusively Anglo-Saxon origin of English literature was shown to be untenable. The influence of Roman arms and arts was sketched,

and historical facts adduced to prove that the possession of England by the Romans for a lengthened period was highly favourable to progressive civilization and literature. The Saxons, he said, brought with them into England many institutions that were valuable, and to that people might be traced the rise of the national character of Britain. Notices were given of such men as Gildas Bede, Alwin, Nennius, and others, distinguished for the learning of the period, and particularly of Alfred the Great, the patron of learned men and the vindicator of the liberties of his country. The origin of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge was ascribed to, and the influence of these rising seminaries on the genius and mental character of the country. The Norman conquest was shown to have been favourable to the literature of England, and some important views were held out as to the blending harmoniously of the Norman, Saxon, and Roman elements, in the production of one majestic whole.

The era of Chaucer was noticed as that of the "morning star of English poetry," and he considered the influence of the *Monks and works of John Wicliffe*, the morning star of the English Reformation, as being salutary in no common degree. The circumstances of resemblance and of contrast betwixt these two eminent individuals were marked, and an estimate formed of each and of both. Specimens were given of Anglo-Saxon and early English writing, and the English version of the Scriptures by Wicliffe, and the works of Sir John Mandeville, furnished some curious proofs of the rapid progress which the English language had made.

RECENT INVENTION.—Messrs. Brown & Childs of this city, have sent us a pair of newly-invented foot-holds, which are well calculated to supply a want experienced by all who are Representatives of the old sandal. It consists of a sole, made from a peculiar preparation of Goodyear's India Rubber, which can be secured in the same manner as leather—studded with nails, of a peculiar make which prevent them slipping, and is kept on the shoe or boot by a toe loop and an elastic strap which goes round the heel. It can be put off or on with the greatest ease. There seems little doubt that such an invention will be generally appreciated, as it will aid very materially in enabling its wearer to maintain due equilibrium on a slippery pavement. Of course they are manufactured to suit ladies and gentlemen.

Arts and Manufactures.

DISCOVERY IN THE MANUFACTURE OF LINEN.

A discovery has been recently made in the manufacture of linen, the staple production of Ireland, the importance of which it will not be easy to over estimate. This invention is in course of development in the north of Ireland, where it first came to light, and will mark the date of a new era in linen manufacture, scarcely less valuable than the invention of the Jacquard loom. One of the greatest difficulties hitherto to be contended with in the process of linen manufacture, is the great length of time required to bleach the woven fabric, and finish it for the market. By the method now in use it requires three months to bring the manufactured material to its proper colour, and to that exquisite finish which Irish linens always exhibit. This great impediment to progress,