

order of developement according to the order of his wants. Beginning in childish curiosity, it passes through all the intellectual stages of human enquiry to a more profound philosophy and if stopped by any objects short of ultimate facts, it feels as if it had a right to know them and evinces increased restlessness and resentment at every opposing obstacle, till its desires are gratified. Everything in the world, both as to kind and number of objects, was arranged, and awaited the arrival of man, and our constitution was configured to it. The means of knowledge open to the full exercise of the five avenues of sensation, are inexhaustable; the horizon of external nature was indefinitely extended and enriched with all the verdure of heaven, calculated to lead the mind from nature up to nature's God.

The power of speech, the organs of utterance and hearing in man, are beautifully adapted to the ærial medium by which sounds are conveyed. The faculty of communication by words, with all the flexibility of language, by which the countless benefits of human intercourse are secured, and the stores of knowledge extant, turned into a common property and conveyed throughout the world, as on winged messengers from one intellect to another, for the general good of our race, may well be ranked among

the highest objects of our ambition.

In concluding our necessarily brief review of the literature of the world during its history, but more especially during the dawn of letters, in the fifteenth century, we are taught at least one important lesson, SELF RELIANCE.

We are inclined to forget or not to study the difficulties with which our forefathers were surrounded. In the midst of gross darkness the absence of libraries and means of information, the risings and fallings of empires, they laid the foundations of our present prosperity; their studies were, in a great measure, the principle source of our boasted advances; they learned, taught and believed as much for us as for themselves; they dispersed the clouds of ignorance that would still hang heavily on our moral and intellectual horizon; they fought for freedom of opinion, the birth-right of our race, and with it came in the train, an aristocratic literature, of which we are the honoured guardians and promoters.

The lamp of general knowledge is burning brightly before us,—let us not forget that we are learning, teaching and believing as much for the next generation as for ourselves; and that our duty is to foster truth, extend its boundaries, and transmit to posterity a literature worthy of moral and intellectual man.

### Encouragement to Teachers.

Practice, it is said, makes perfect; hence, few, it will be admitted, understand the art of teaching equal to those who have spent a long portion of their time as practical teachers; practice and theory are inseparably connected; it requires in the administration of the educational laws of the country thorough practical men to keep the whole machinery rightly in motion: it is so of every other pursuit also; every department of human enquiry requires men to superintend it who understand its operations. No

government thinks for a moment of appointing to any of the law offices, men who are not versed in the theory and practice of jurisprudence.

We think the same doctrine should also hold good with regard to the educational department;—men should be appointed to these offices who are of business habits and understand as well *how*, as *what* to teach. There are scores of men scattered over the Lower Provinces who have spent much time in the school room, and are able to fill, in point of education