

to be led back to his judges. He insisted in such cool and firm language, and his countenance had in it such a rare authority, that after some dispute about the breach of official order, he was admitted into a room where two or three of the Chief Lords of Session, and the chancellor of the jury were assembled. Though still fettered on both hands and feet, he stood before them in an attitude of singular grace, and made this speech as it appears in the language of the record.

"The people abroad would befriend me, because they love the cause they think I have served; and my judges, I take leave to think, would pity me, if they saw an old man and a tender woman pleading again for my life. But I will profit it nothing by my judges' pity, nor the people's love for a Cameron. I have triumphed enough to day, since I have baffled both my accusers and my jury. I am Gordon, chief of the wandering tribes, but since you have acquitted me on "soul and conscience," you cannot try me again; and since I am not Cameron you cannot try me for Cameron's treasons. I have had my revenge of my father's enemy, and I might have had more. He once felt the *dead grip* of a Gordon, and he should have felt it again if he had not called me his son, and blessed me as my father once did. If you had sent me to the grass-market, I would have been *buzzed* as a Cameron, for it is better for one of that name than mine to die the death of a dog; but since you have set me free, I will live free as a Gordon."

This extraordinary appeal astonished and confounded his hearers. They were ashamed of their mistaken judgment, and dismayed at the dilemma. They could neither prove him to be a Cameron or a Gordon, except by his own avowal which might be false either in the first or second case; and after some consultation with the Secretary of state, it was agreed to transport him privately to France. But on his road to a sea-port, his escort was attacked by a troop of wild men and women, who fought with the fury of Arabs till they had rescued their leader, whose name remained celebrated till within the last sixty-years, as the most formidable of the gipsy tribe.

The grasp of a crowning man.

THE CANADIAN FAMILY HERALD.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, DEC. 20, 1851.

TO OUR READERS.—Persons who received the first and this number, and do not return them, will be placed on the list of our Subscribers.

As several blunders have occurred from parties mistaking the name of the publisher of this paper, for W. McDougall, Esq., proprietor of the North American.—To prevent this in future, we have to inform our readers that this paper has no connexion with the North American, and is published by D. McDougall, (not William McDougall) No. 5, City Buildings, King-Street East.

A CONCERT.

We learn that it is the intention of the Ladies' Association for the relief of Destitute Coloured Fugitives, to give a Grand Concert, on Thursday evening, the 8th January next, in the St. Lawrence Hall; and as the object is a benevolent one, we hope it will be well attended.

The want of space this week prevents us from inserting Mr. Robertson's second lecture on the "History of Canada," delivered in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute, on the 17th Inst. We will insert it in our next issue.

PROSPECTUS

OR

THE CANADIAN FAMILY HERALD.

Price One Dollar per annum.

At present there exists not amongst us any paper so exclusively divested of party politics, and at the same time so general in its bearing upon the individual interest of the body politic, as to make it really a family paper; acceptable alike to the merchant and the mechanic, the artist and the agriculturist.

To supply this desideratum it is proposed to establish a quarto weekly paper, to be published in Toronto, entitled *THE CANADIAN FAMILY HERALD*, in which Agriculture, Art, Science, and Literature, in their latest discoveries, their most recent inventions, their gradual development, and their present and prospective social benefits, will be concisely and comprehensively unfolded, 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.

New 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.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Mr. R. R., Saugeen,—letter received, he will accept of our thanks for his exertions.—We have to thank Mr. D. McL., Cobourg, and Mr. J. McC., Paris; C. W., for their kind exertions in our behalf.—A. D. McD., Hamilton,—request was attended to.

A PENNY Reading Room! Well the idea is not novel, neither is it at all grotesque. Every large town in England and Scotland furnishes such a thing. This true we have a Commercial News Room, and a Mechanics' Institute, both of which provide largely for the reading wants of the community. The Commercial Room or Athenaeum for an annual subscription of five dollars gives the use of a large assortment of well selected papers and magazines, besides a library of 1000 volumes. The Mechanics' Institute has a very appropriate library of 1300 volumes, the use of which, beside certain advantages in reference to lectures, is given for an annual subscription of seven and six-pence. But Mr Fletcher, in the Reading Room which he contemplates to establish, aims at supplying the frequently recurring wants of a more ephemeral class of society, than is comprehended in the membership of either of these Institutions. The aim is a feasible one. All cities have more or less a floating population—persons of a migratory caste, who enjoy, as it were, a perpetual spring. Toronto forms no exception to the rule. There are hundreds of young men, both artizans and commercial men, who have no fixed residence, they discharge their necessary functions in one quarter, and then move about to enjoy the next best offer. Such persons do not become members of either of these Institutions. The one, they look upon as being established for a more stable class of society, the other, does not so fully meet their immediate wants. To fill up this vacuum, Mr. Charles Fletcher, Bookseller, Yonge Street, purposes to establish a Reading Room, to be supplied with the principal Reviews and Magazines, and a good selection of Newspapers, open to all, at the rate of one penny a visit. On entering, the reader deposits his penny and may sit there, until he is thoroughly satisfied. He may return next day or next week, or not until the issue of another number of some particular work with which he wishes to cultivate his acquaintance. The artizan has a spare hour after his toil, and he drops into the reading room, and is there enabled to spend it profitably. In this way such a place may be rendered highly beneficial, inasmuch as it supplies a vacancy in our social appointments. It would be altogether out of place to enter into any argument to show the advantage of Reading Rooms when properly conducted; that advantage is apparent to the most casual observer. While it is so, it is prudent to extend this benefit to all who can by any possibility avail themselves of it, and in no way can it be so effectually done, as by the adoption of a system which has in other quarters met with the warmest manifestations of popular favour.

Arts and Manufactures.

APPLICATION OF CHEMISTRY TO THE ARTS.

Every day affords new evidences of the successful application of chemistry to the arts, effecting not only the entire change in the established methods of procedure, but in many cases causing a great saving of manual labour and