

wide field is open for the labors of those who have a taste for such pursuits.— Our forests abound in beautiful flowers, and indigenous plants, and it is a pleasing employment to gather them fresh from the bosom of the earth.

The ornithology of this country is extremely interesting. During the summer months birds of gay plumage, and delightful song, pay us their annual visit. From this department of natural history, none who enquire can fail to observe how nicely the organs of each species are adapted to the habits and character of each individual. Some of the diving tribes are furnished with diving bells. A strong membrane is suspended under the throat, and before a dive is made, inflated with air, which supplies the lungs after the bird has descended beneath the water. I have recently found that the guinet, or soland goose has its skin attached to the body only at a few points. Before the bird rises to fly, the skin is distended from the body by air drawn in through the mouth; and the animal like an inflated balloon is rendered buoyant, rises with facility, and flies away.

Without this remarkable apparatus he would with his narrow wings be unable to ascend. The duck is provided with paddles. The heron, and the whole family of waders have long legs, necks, and beaks, all admirably adapted for obtaining their food without wetting their bodies. The wood-pecker is armed with a bill of horn, and the barbed lance at the end of his tongue firmly secures the hidden fly. These things may seem extremely simple but they afford the most ample testimony of the power, wisdom, and goodness of that almighty Being, who has abundantly provided for the wants of all his creatures.

The advantages derived from any enquiry, are not confined to the immediate effects of that enquiry upon the mind. They extend much farther, and expand the intellectual powers to receive other supplies and enlarge the capacity beyond its ordinary limits. They rectify the understanding, and sharpen the appetite for light and truth. Happily the acquirement of knowledge is within the reach of all, and the precious boon will be denied to none, who industriously seek its attainments.

To disseminate useful knowledge among all classes of society, with a view to improve their moral habits, and excite every laudable feeling of emulation in the breasts of those into whose hands much of our property is often placed, and upon whose skill many of our comforts depend, is as important as the possession of knowledge among ourselves. A plan that will place within the reach of all that will receive them, the means of becoming wiser, better, and happier, calls loudly upon our benevolence, and the labor devoted for this purpose, should it be effective on mechanic's only, will return a great reward. Persons who from their greater advantages, have secured more than an ordinary share of literary or scientific knowledge, should here unlock their stores and exchange before the Institute those intellectual goods which are most valuable when given away.

No improvement, or invention is too simple to be denied admittance here.— Who can supply the best model of a ship, a cottage, or a coach, are questions often asked in this city? In future may the answers be given by our committees.

For the accomplishment of these objects have the most respectable, talented and influential individuals of this city been called upon, and the summons has not been sent in vain. Moved by a kindred impulse, they have applied themselves to the work, and St. John can now boast of a more powerful body, composing her Institute than ever assembled before for a similar purpose in any of the British Provinces.

And need we be reminded that much of the success of every benevolent enterprise, depends upon the support it receives from the fairer, and better half of all communities. Who are they that calm the troubles incident to life, and sooth the victim of distracting care. Who watch over childhood, and soften the pillow of the dying. They are our wives, our mothers, sisters, and daughters. Commenced under the most auspicious circumstances, and greeted like the dove bearing the olive branch to the ark: this Institute will flourish, and long after your names have faded from its records, will the philosopher and philanthropist rejoice over your works, while the humble artist will shed the tear of gratitude in commemoration of your benevolence.

Ladies

Hope

Section

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