

in resources is Necessity; and how seldom it is, that in the absence of the ordinary instrument, she has not some new invention to supply its place. This is a truth of which the studios have often had experience, and been all the better for experiencing; for difficulties so encountered and subdued, not only awaken ingenuity, but strengthen a man's whole intellectual and moral character, and fit him for struggles and achievements in after life, from which other spirits less hardly trained, would turn away in despair."

We have no hesitation in saying, that if the youth of our land, surrounded as they are with educational facilities of the highest order, would steadily devote but one hour a day to self-improvement, and be judicious in the selection of their books, placing the Bible first, they would find in the course of a few years, there is no leading fact in history with which they would be unacquainted—no principle in any science that they could not understand—no truth in morals or religion of which they would be ignorant. By way of encouraging them in this important undertaking, we would remind them of the honours and pleasures that invariably attend all efforts at moral and intellectual improvement. How dignifying to human nature, and how bliss inspiring to the human heart, to be employed in obtaining a knowledge of the natural and moral history of our world—the construction and laws of the universe—and, moreover, of looking

"Through Nature up to Nature's God."

But we fear there are thousands of our young people, even in this highly favoured and enlightened country, who pay more attention to the decoration of their persons, than the inward adorning of the mind, and who spend more time in trifling and vanity than in the pleasures of science and religion. We perhaps cannot do better than set before such the example of the great Roman orator, Cicero. What a nobleness of being, and what a loftiness of aim he evinces in the following words: "What others give to their own affairs, to the public shows, and other entertainments, to festivity, to amusement—nay, even to mental and bodily rest, I give to study and philosophy." Can any one wonder that Cicero became a great man? And will Christians of the present enlightened age permit themselves to be surpassed in devotion to self-improvement by a heathen philosopher?—*West Ch. Advocate.*

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The steam-ship *Caledonia* was obliged by stress of weather to put back to Liverpool, and her passengers and mails were brought by the *Acadia*.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The Prince of Wales has been baptized, receiving the name of Albert Edward; the ceremonies were extremely splendid.

Sir Robert Peel proposes a new sliding scale of duties on grain, by which a very material reduction will be effected, as a comparison of a few points of the present and proposed scales of duties on wheat will show. When the average price of wheat is

	Price.	Present Duty.	Proposed Duty.
under . .	51s.	36s. 8d.	20s.
from . .	60s. to 61s.	26s. 8d.	12s.
" . .	70s. to 71s.	10s. 8d.	4s.
over . .	73s.	1s. 0d.	1s.

Colonial wheat, which is now admitted at a duty of 5s. when the average is under 67s., and at a duty of 1s. above that rate, is to be at 1s. when the average is over 58s. The Ministry also propose to lay a tax on American wheat and flour coming into Canada, whether, as we understand it, for consumption or exportation to Britain, of 3s. per quarter, and 2s. per bbl. respectively. Prices of grain were somewhat lower.

The foregoing propositions have given no satisfaction to the Corn Law repealers, who have in some places burned Sir Robert Peel in effigy, and in others held public meetings and bazaars to promote the Anti-Corn Law agitation; an agitation which is fast becoming extremely formidable.

Great success attends the British Arms in China. Chusan, Tinghae, Chinghae, and Ningpo, have been taken with, it is said, great slaughter of the Chinese, and a very trifling loss on the part of the British. Nevertheless no disposition to make concessions was apparent on the part of the Chinese government.

The British troops in Upper India have experienced serious reverses.

The crown Lawyers are unanimously of opinion that no law exists in Britain for giving up the *Creole* Negroes, and instructions have consequently been sent to Nassau to liberate the nineteen who were detained in confinement.

Lord Ashburton sailed on his special mission to the United States on the 15th February.

The expedition to the Niger, of which such high expectations were entertained as the means of opening up an extensive commerce with the interior of Africa, and introducing Christianity and civilization, has failed. The failure was owing to dreadful mortality amongst the persons composing it, caused by the extreme unhealthiness of the climate.

Distress continued unabated in the manufacturing districts. In Paisley 17,000 persons were living upon charity; one penny three farthings a day being about the allowance for each. Subscriptions and collections for their relief were made in all parts of the country.

UNITED STATES.—The excitement among the slave-holders about the *Creole* and the right of search has not abated, and the Secretary of State, Daniel Webster, has pledged the American Government to a demand for indemnity from Great Britain for the *Creole* Negroes. This demand will, it is believed, be decidedly refused, and the American Government will of course be reduced to the alternative of withdrawing it or declaring war.

Extraordinary excitement prevails in Congress when any question connected with slavery is brought forward, and the Southern members sometimes find themselves in a minority in these questions, for the first time we believe in the history of the United States.

The present banking system of the United States is to a great extent broken up by suspensions and bankruptcy, and it is not at all likely that a national bank of any kind will be established.

CANADA.—The Special Councils have in general made a good beginning, though it is much to be regretted that some of them have refused to impose taxes for Education.

Liberal subscriptions have been raised in several cities and towns of Canada for the relief of the destitute operatives of Paisley.

Liberty, tranquillity, and prosperity appear to prevail throughout the land; if we could only add temperance, we should say that the people of Canada, as far as temporal matters are concerned, were in the happiest circumstances of any people since the world began.

MONIES RECEIVED ON ACCOUNT OF

Advocate.—E. Grout, Vaudricul, 3s. 4d.; P. Hodgkinson, Aylmer, U. C., 11s. 3d.; S. McCoy, Darlington, £1; S. Warner, Wilton, 5s.; Mrs. Hilliard and J. Rogers, Grenville, 6s. 8d.; J. Carson, Buckingham, 8s.; J. Hudson and J. Noyes, Clatham, 6s. 8d.; G. McLeod, Buckingham, 5s.; W. Lough, Buckingham, 5s.; L. Bigelow, Buckingham, £1 5s.; T. R. Symmes, D. Pinck, W. Grimes, and C. Wood, Aylmer, L. C., £1; J. Sully and J. Rickard, Bytown, 10s.; E. J. Briggs, Stanstead East, 5s.; C. Brooks, Lennoxville, £2 10s.; Sundries, per J. Mc Donald, Agent, £2 0s. 6d.; Sundries, per Rev. R. Saul, Agent, £9 2s. Sundries, Montreal, £1 6s. 3d.

Donations.—D. McLaren, Tarbolton, 15s.; Royal Regt., per W. Bustard, London, £2.

Anti-Bacchus.—R. D. Wadsworth, Agent, Montreal, £3 15s.; C. B. Knapp, Bytown, £1 12s. 6d.; John Dougall, sales, £9 18s.; per Rev. R. Saul, Agent, £1 3s. 9d. *Erratum*.—In December number £1 from C. B. Knapp, Bytown, should be £1 10s.

Almanacs.—R. D. Wadsworth, Agent, Montreal, 12s.

Agency.—M. Barber, Lachute, 10s.; L. Waldron, Lachute, 5s.; Rev. W. Dignum, St. Andrews, 5s.; Collection at meetings in West Hawkesbury, 10s. 6d.; Chenail Ecarte, 5s.; *L'Original*, 10s. 1d.; Cumberland, 6s. 3d.; Chelsea, 13s.; Bytown Total Abstinence Society, £3 12s. 1d.; per Rev. R. Saul, Agent, M. Troyer, Port Rowan, 1s. 8d.; Port Dover Society, 11s. 6d.; Simcoe Society, 13s. 10d.; Dunville Society, £3 6s. 5d.; J. P. Down, Port Colborne, 1s. 3d.; Rev. W. Clarke and W. Rose, London, £4 10s.; Ottawa Society, 15s.; Colborne Society, £2 10s.