

THE CANADIAN MECHANIC

MAGAZINE

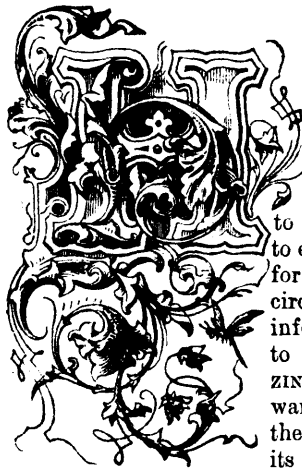
AND
PATENT OFFICE RECORD

Vol 4.

AUGUST, 1876.

No. 8.

THE FAMILY FRIEND.



HERETOFORE, we have followed the custom of many American scientific journals, of introducing, indiscriminately, amongst scientific subjects, many articles relating to matters of general interest to every reader, and particularly for the benefit of the home circle. However valuable this information may have proved to actual readers of the MAGAZINE, there has been no outward indication, by its title, that the subjects contained within its pages were of interest to

any other persons than those solely connected with scientific pursuits; whereas, on the contrary, we have endeavoured to fill its pages with a variety of interesting matters of much value to every household. It is, therefore, for this reason that we now add to its present title that of the *Family Friend*, and in lieu of mixing up scientific information with other matters of lighter reading, but of equal importance to the mechanic, we propose classifying our subjects into two parts—one purely scientific and mechanical—the other (half) will be of a lighter character, but not less instructive or useful, as it will be the means, we hope, of creating a taste for literature and science, and for many of those pleasing useful arts, suitable for both sexes, which are so much practised in the mother country and in Europe, and which have tended, in so great a degree, to improve and benefit nations. The subjects of which we shall treat will be found in the remarks on our Prospectus on the back of the cover. We shall therefore, hereafter, commencing with the August number, classify these subjects into two parts, viz.: Scientific and Mechanical—and Popular Family Instruction—16 pages, with illustrations, will be devoted to each section. The first part will be entirely filled with purely SCIENTIFIC, ARCHITECTURAL, and MECHANICAL MATTER. The second part, to FINE ARTS; DRAWING; MUSIC; NATURAL HISTORY; BOTANY; GARDENING; &c. PLEASING AMATEUR MECHANICAL PURSUITS; such as FRET WORK; CARVING and GILDING;

TURNING; PICTURE FRAME MAKING; PLEASING and INSTRUCTIVE TALES; HOUSEHOLD ECONOMY; THE ART of COOKING; GAMES FOR BOYS AND GIRLS, and everything that will tend to render the HOME CIRCLE *cheerful and happy*, and *instruct and elevate the mind*.

In adopting this plan we do not take from the value of the scientific information afforded to our readers, or lessen the number of our superior illustrations—on the contrary, we shall endeavor to condense more important reading into smaller space.

The MAGAZINE, under its present arrangement, is a journal that will be found interesting and valuable to every family, particularly to its younger branches. In its pages they will find a selection of various subjects which would cost many dollars, annually, to obtain, had the valuable works, from which we select it, to be purchased. We have fairly done our part, at a great expense, to improve the MAGAZINE, and we now look for the support of every family who values education, afforded under a pleasing aspect to the younger branches, as the basis of the future happiness and prosperity of its members. It is works like this that sow the seed of knowledge around the family hearth, from which a rich harvest is reaped in future life by parents, in perceiving their boys grow up with manly feelings and cultivated minds. It is from such germs, also, that young girls grow up to be *women* in the true sense of the word. How many a boy and girl in early life has imbibed a taste for some useful and pleasing art or mechanical pursuit, which has been a boon to them thereafter, from having had placed in their hands illustrated and instructive books, instead of frivolous and trashy novels, which only fill the mind with false ideas of life and undermine morality? These kind of books are the very chaff of literature, in which is mixed up the poisonous seeds of weeds, which germinate rapidly in the fertile mind of youth, and if not soon cut down and exterminated, smother up, in their rank growth, the finest feelings of the human heart.

The Public are as much interested in the support of a journal of this kind, from its moral and instructive teaching to their children, as the publishers are to secure patronage for its maintenance. For the small sum of two dollars per annum, we now place within the reach of ALL a MAGAZINE which, we hope, will prove to be the most useful family work ever published in Canada.