

marriage indenture. This she did, but the person to whose care it was entrusted, after keeping it several months returned it to her, having been disappointed in his expected voyage. During this interval of suspense and anxiety, the feelings of the poor man were very distressing. He thought of his daughter with fearful apprehensions; his mind, to use his own phrase, was in a "terrible turmoil." At length she wished for document arrived, and dispelled his fears; since which several letters have been received from the fair adventuress to her father, expressive of her having realised her fondest hopes, and the happiness she enjoys in the society of her husband, whom she describes as the most amiable and best of men. His company, she says, is universally courted, and he is esteemed and beloved by all. Their house is situated in the principal street; its furniture is neat and elegant, but not sumptuous, and they have three servants. Their mode of spending the day is this, after breakfast she retires to dress, and then sits down to her French lessons (it being the language of the place, and one of which she is ignorant,) at two they dine; in the afternoon she works, while he reads to her till five; and they then walk out together in the governor's gardens (abounding with the finest orange-trees in Europe,) or into the large pine forests that surround the town. These are stocked with wild deer, various kinds of game, squirrels, and birds of fine plumage. After tea, the remainder of the evening is devoted to reading and conversation. Such is the plan of the day, occasionally relieved by paying and receiving visits. To use her own words, "every hour adds to my happiness, which is of that calm and heavenly nature, it resembles a pleasing dream, and, indeed, often do I ask myself, can this be true? or will not the delightful illusion vanish?" In a letter from the colonel to his father-in-law, he says, "that though his rank and condition in life entitled him to have formed an alliance with families of higher pretensions, yet having conceived, in the first instance, favorable impressions of his daughter, he had been guided by them in the choice he had made; and that he was well satisfied with the step, for that his companion proved to him a most excellent and affectionate wife." After residing about two years at Bialystok, the colonel and his lady settled in St. Petersburg.

Here ended the baker's account of his daughter's fortunes, and the old man shortly afterwards died. I am unable to present any further particulars of the romantic story.

THE CANADIAN FAMILY HERALD.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, JAN. 10, 1852.

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. 6, City Buildings, King Street East.

PROSPECTUS

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 expence 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.

Parties returning this paper will please write the name of the place on the margin.

To Correspondents.—R. R., Saugeen, letter received. Pro popo publico—A. Reader—W. M. M.—in our next.

Answers to Correspondents.

MISTIFICUS. The solar microscope.—Our Correspondent not having stated very explicitly what part of Mr. Freeland's very interesting lecture he did not fully comprehend, we may merely say, that the solar microscope consists of a tube, a looking-glass, a convex lens to condense the sun's rays upon the object, and a

convex glass of a short focal distance to throw the image of the object when magnified on a screen generally made of white calico. The looking-glass is placed outside the window, the room is darkened and the sun's rays being admitted through the tube, throw the magnified reflection on the screen. The most powerful solar microscope which we have seen, is that exhibited in Short's Observatory, on the Calton Hill, Edinburgh, by it may have been seen a drop of water magnified to about from four to five feet, teeming with myriads of animalcules, some of them as large as an ordinary sized lobster, and partaking pretty much of the same formation. The Oxy-hydrogen microscope exhibited in the London Polytechnic Institution is upon the same principle as the solar microscope, but operated upon by a jet of oxy-hydrogen gas acting on a ball or cylinder of lime, which produces a most brilliant light. A condensation of Mr. Freeland's lecture will appear in our next.

T. F. KNIVES AND FORKS. Knives of some sort have been in use from creation's dawn, but the first mention made of forks as a part of table cutlery is in an inventory of an Italian Prince's Plate in 1373. Before this period the knife only would seem to have been used. This opinion is strengthened by the fact that up to the present day the Turks have not learned the use of the fork. The Chinese use two small pieces of hard wood or ivory, something similar to a lady's knitting pins. These they hold in the left hand between their fingers, and lift the food to the mouth with them, a process, in which, although it appears strange to us, they are said to be very expert. In Tynes Morfyson's *Itinerary*, written in the reign of Elizabeth, he says, at Venice each person was served (besides his knife and spoon) with a fork to hold the meat; while he eats it, for here they deem it all manners that one should touch it with his hands. Forks were used in England, however, in the reign of James the 1st. Thomas Coryate who writes his continental travels in 1608 says, I will mention a thing that may have been spoken of before. "I observed a custom in all these Italian cities and towns through which I have passed that is not in use in any other that I saw in my travels, neither do I think in any other nation of Christendom, but that of Italy. The Italians, do always use at their meals a little fork when they eat their meat, while with the knife which they hold in one hand they eat the meat out of the dish, they fasten the fork which they hold in the other hand, upon the same dish, so that whosoever he be, that sitting in the company at meals, shall, unadvisedly touch the meat with his fingers, from which all at the table do eat, he will give occasion of offence to the company. This form of feeding, I understand is generally used in all parts of Italy, their forks for the most part being made of yvonne, steel and some of silver. The reason of this their curiosity is because the Italians cannot, by any means endure to have the dish touched with the fingers as all men's fingers are not alike clean. Coryate seems to have become a convert to this Italian Philosophy, for he introduced the custom, and was by one of his friends termed a table farct-