

TO THE PUBLIC.

In presenting the annexed CATALOGUE OF STANDARD WORKS, the several publishers herein represented beg to say a passing word to the public, from whom they have hitherto long, and trust as continuously hereafter, to obtain a liberal support.

On the advantages of a good library in the present day little need be spoken. Society of every grade admits its necessity; ordinary intelligence seeks for it in every department; liberal learning demands it, and social progress and morality alike make it their monitor and guide. The library, in a word, is the great "essential of the century;" with it, mind and matter are invested with new life and energy; without it, all vigor droops and advancement of whatever kind becomes stagnant and inert.

The works put forth by Blackie & Sons, Glasgow; Fullarton & Co., Edinburgh; the London Publishing Company (London, Eng.) Johnson, Fry & Co., New York; and Betts & Co., Hartford, Conn., herein enumerated, are of established fame on both continents, and have long been pre-eminent and unapproached in the great race of competition with other houses of the kind. In short, they have out-distanced all rivals. Their Catalogue comprises all the leading modern treatises in the wide field of Literature, Science, Philosophy, Poetry and Religion. The theologian and the mechanic, the artist and the farmer, the commercial man and the laborer, are fully and completely represented. Each will find in the appended list some work that will smooth the rough places of his daily routine—some treatise at once a companion and an unerring guide.

But, perhaps, the most conspicuous feature in the companies named, and that which, next to the perfection of their works, commends them to the public in general, is the excellent facility afforded for the acquirement of a library. All works are issued, at option of the party, in volume or in single number, varying

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