

THE EDITOR'S TABLE.

A COPY of a "*New Practical System of Stenography*," by Mr. Edward Gilman, has been laid upon our table. The great and almost insurmountable difficulty besetting all systems of short hand writing, is the extreme difficulty the learner encounters in reading his MSS. after a short interval of time. It is easy enough to write, but to read what is written is the trouble. How far Mr. Gilman has overcome this evil, we are not able to say. It is evident he has taken much pains with this little work, and his system is ingenious enough to please the most fastidious; but of its practicability, we confess incompetency to form a correct opinion. One great merit is his due—that of laborious diligence in the preparing of his book for the public. The work is printed in Kingston, by Mr. John Rowlands; and the author, unwilling to bear the excessive expense of obtaining type cast expressly for his cabalistic signs and marks, has interpolated them with the pen throughout the entire edition. This necessarily raises the price of the little book to one dollar. It is very cheap at the price; and to persons desirous of acquiring a most useful accomplishment, we heartily recommend it.

"*Yonnondio, or the Warriors of the Genesec.*"—a Tale of the seventeenth century, by W. H. C. Hosmer: D. M. Dewy, Rochester; 12 mo., pp. 240. We have been kindly favored with a copy of this new American Poem, by an American: but as it is foreign to the purpose of this Magazine to criticise any new works, except those issuing from the Canadian Press, we are compelled to forego any expression in its favor. The book is exceedingly well got up; and may be procured at Armour & Ramsay's Book Store, Kingston.

William L. Mackenzie has politely sent us his "*Life and Times of Martin Van Buren.*"—a huge compilation of letters, speeches, addresses, and public documents, having relation to the stirring times in which the ex-President lived. The work has created an immense sensation in the political world of the State of New York. The reason expressed above, prohibits any further notice. As many of our readers may be anxious to know the whereabouts of the arch-rebel, we shall add, that he is at present staying in Albany, engaged in reporting the proceedings of the State Convention for revising the Constitution of the State of New York. Mr. Mackenzie, for the last two years, has been as actively engaged in the politics of the United States, as ever he was in those of Upper Canada.

As the literature of Canada, like the Colony itself, is yet merely in its infancy, the duty of reviewing new publications will be one of easy accomplishment; but in the many brilliant indications of native talent, we can recognize the germ of future greatness.