

Editorial.



A GOOD NEW YEAR.

The time has come round again for us to wish our readers a "Happy New Year." Winter is upon us once more with its long evenings, which render a good supply of interesting reading matter almost a necessity, especially in country places. We hope to make our Monthly visits a source of both pleasure and profit to the homes of subscribers. During the past twelve months we have effected several improvements in the Magazine; but with the New Year, having been obliged to raise the subscription price to a dollar and a half, we present still farther attractions. In this number we commence an original serial, entitled, "Marguerite; a Tale of Forest Life in Acadia," written by J. G. Bourinot, Esq., whose articles on "Gentlemen Adventures in Acadia" have been so highly appreciated. In our Fashion Department, begun in last number, it is our intention, not so much to give a complete view of fashions in its extremes, as to present a few practical hints for sensible people who wish to dress elegantly and at the same time economically. In the Young Folks Department we have this year a serial by our esteemed contributor, Mrs. A. Campbell, of Quebec. We shall also give in future a few riddles and puzzles each month, and to this column we invite original contributions. We shall continue to make the early history of our country a specialty; and desire to receive more of such tales as that of "The Colonists," concluded in the December number, which is true in all its historic details and gives a vivid picture of life in the olden time. Truth in this case, as often happens, is stranger than fiction. With an increased subscription list we should be able to make other desirable changes, and to this end we offer large inducements to clubs. Every

old subscriber who sends us a new name will be entitled to the two copies at the old price of one dollar each, and a club of five will receive the same reduction. If each of our friends would do something, however little, to induce others to take the magazine, we should probably be able, by the beginning of next year, to report a doubled circulation.

THE LATE GEORGE PEABODY.

Mr. Peabody, whose praise just now is in every one's mouth, whose name will long be a household word among the poor of London, was born in South Danvers, Massachusetts. His career as a banker in the world's metropolis, and the magnificent benefactions which have made his name famous, are too well known to need recapitulation. His donations in his native country were principally to forward the cause of education—his great interest in which probably arose in part from the fact that he was taken from school at eleven years of age, and had thus himself felt the need of the advantages he so liberally supplied for others. To the Danvers celebration in 1850, he sent the toast—"Education: a debt due from present to future generations."

The first money Mr. Peabody earned, outside of his small salary as a clerk, was for writing ballots for the Federal party at Newburyport. When he first resided in London he lived very frugally—his personal expenses for ten years averaging less than £600 per annum. He was very careful about little things, and especially opposed to small frauds. Being overcharged a shilling for fare once on an English railway, he complained to the Directors, and had the official removed—"not that he could not afford to pay the shilling, but the