

ing information in the shape of notes and newspaper cuttings upon a variety of topics.

These lines will be read by numbers of people whose miscellaneous stores of favorite extracts and literary and historical odds and ends have long been laid away in yellow edged bundles, portly portfolios or dust-covered pigeon holes, where the lack of a catalogue or index and the absence of any systematic attempt at classification, renders them practically valueless in their present shape.

Search would doubtless bring to light much of such hidden matter, of which the publication in *NORTH AMERICAN NOTES AND QUERIES* would prove convenient to its collectors and pleasing and instructive to its readers. A diligent overhauling of the scrapbooks, notes and cuttings of the readers of this initial number of *NORTH AMERICAN NOTES AND QUERIES* would doubtless be found beneficial as well as interesting.

With the aid and co-operation of our readers it is hoped that this paper will furnish a medium by which much valuable information may become a sort of common property for those who can appreciate and use it.

In every profession and walk of life, the men who seek the refining influences of an enlarged circle of knowledge must very often experience the want of a cheap, practical and convenient means of interchanging thoughts and views, of communicating to others their impressions of men and things, and of acquiring information. Such a means the *NORTH AMERICAN NOTES AND QUERIES* now offers.

It will be to the North American people what the London *Notes and Queries* is to Englishmen all over the world.

It will fill the place in North America of the English *Notes and Queries* ¹, the French *Intermédiaire des Chercheurs et Curieux* ², and *L'Echo du Public* ³, the Italian *Giornale di Erudizione*, and the French-Canadian *Bulletin des Recherches Historiques* ⁴.

1—Published in London and founded in 1849.

2—Published in Paris and founded in 1864.

3—Published in Paris and founded in 1896.

4—Published in Levis and founded in 1895.