

# THE PROVINCIAL.

HALIFAX, N. S. JANUARY, 1853.

## A FEW WORDS TO OUR READERS.

IN commencing a new volume of 'The Provincial,' it may not be out of place to address a few words to our Readers. It was not without considerable hesitation that we ventured to assume the duty and responsibility of doing what had been more than once done before: appealing to the taste and intelligence of our fellow Colonists, to enable us to sustain a Periodical, purely literary in its character.

We were encouraged to make the attempt in consequence of a very general desire expressed by a portion of the reading public—for a native publication of this description. In compliance with this feeling the work was ushered into existence, and in spite of many faults both of thought and expression, notwithstanding many defects both in plan and execution, we are sincerely glad at heart that we undertook the work. Wherever the Magazine has reached it has been received with kindness. Contributors, known and unknown, have rendered assistance with a cordiality and ability without which the Magazine small as it is, could not well have been carried on. To these ladies and gentlemen we return our hearty thanks, and trust that their labour of love will be continued, and that their exertions, combined with our own and that of others, will place the second volume of 'The Provincial,' in a much more commanding position than the first.

We have not bribed the Press even by an advertisement, yet their notices have always been kind and encouraging—generous—to an extent which goes far to prove the almost universal feeling in favour of the rise and progress of a native literature. We thank these gentlemen for their kind wishes and valuable aid, while their interest in our welfare is all the more gratifying that it has not been confined within the limits of our own Province; but has extended to Canada, New Brunswick and the other Colonies—even as far as the great Republic itself. We trust that this interest will expand itself still more generally, and that we will yet be able to count our circulation by thousands and not by hundreds.