

## TO THE READER.

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The following hurried sketch was delivered, as an Essay, before the Toronto Literary and Debating Society, and published in the Toronto Leader, of the 8th December, by a resolution of the Society.

The encouragement of a few friends, and the absence of any description of the Montreal Celebration, of a similar nature, have led the writer to perpetuate it in Pamphlet Form. As an Essayist, he was compelled to be very brief, and has been obliged to treat, in a general manner, what should have been minutely described; but he has not desired to challenge criticism. Conscious of the nature of the article—that it was never intended for publication—he has only to plead, as his excuse, the desire felt by him to catch and portray, ere they passed away forever, some of those glowing impressions, which only created by great sights and great events—only felt in the *abandon* and excitement of a Carnival itself—can, perhaps, present far more of the real coloring of this GREAT PICTURE than volumes of matter-of-fact description.

W. B. SULLIVAN.

TORONTO, C. W., Dec. 15, 1856.