

OUR TABLE.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR we wish thee, reader! May it be peaceful and prosperous, from its commencement until its close. May thy days be full of sunshine, and cheerfulness, and hope; thy nights, peaceful, calm, refreshing. At this, the season of festivity, may every face thou seest, every hand thou claspest, every lip thou pressest, be warm with the glow of esteem and friendship! May Happiness, as a handmaiden, wait on thee, and cheer thee with her radiant smile, wherever thou appearest, whether among thy household gods "at home," or in the halls where pleasure's votaries "most do congregate." All bliss attend thee, gentle and courteous reader! From the bottom of our hearts we wish thee, and all in whom thou takest interest—a "Happy New Year."

With this number we begin a new volume of the Garland. It is the seventh year since our labours in the cause of literature began; and, being of a hopeful disposition, every year we have expected that our labours would be appreciated better than they had been the last. We still hope on, for we cannot believe that in a community such as Canada can boast of, literature will be always neglected. Let us pray you,—all who desire to see the country of your birth or of your adoption, take her proper place, to give us your assistance, as far as we pretend to ask it—that is, your names as subscribers. The cost to you will be very trifling; the return, we venture to believe, will be at least a reasonably fair equivalent. We do not imagine that we will give you the best of every thing; but what we do give you will be good. We have no great wish to make the Magazine a speculation, but we would like to see it—as we think it entitled to be—well supported.

We have been favoured by the zealous Superintendent of Education for Canada East, with the copy of a Circular addressed by him to the Commissioners and Trustees of Schools in this portion of the Province. It is gratifying to witness the interest taken by this energetic officer in the usefulness of his department, and we are gratified to learn that the sphere of his operations is gradually widening, owing to the more general appreciation, by the people, of the desire of the Parliament and the Executive, to diffuse sound practical education among the inhabitants of the colony. We select from the Circular, a couple of paragraphs, the utility of which is apparent, and we take the liberty of suggesting to those of

our readers resident in the country parishes, the propriety of urging upon the Commissioners the necessity of immediate compliance with the requirements of the Superintendent:—

"I cannot too earnestly exhort the School Commissioners, in localities where no proceedings have yet been taken for the erection of public School-houses, and which have a claim to the appropriation for this object, to take steps immediately to profit by this aid, which can only be considered temporary.

"It is my duty, also, to request the Commissioners and Trustees frequently to visit the Schools, in order that they may be the better able to judge of the qualifications of the teachers, and of the progress made by the scholars. It is needless to say that a visible interest taken by them, is calculated powerfully to encourage teachers, parents and children, to do all that depends on them, to attain the great object which the Legislature had in view in furnishing means to aid in diffusing instruction among the people."

It is with sincere pleasure we have noticed the Prospectus of "La Revue Canadienne"—a weekly Journal to be published in the French language, and to be principally devoted to literary pursuits. Its editor and proprietor, Mr. Letourneau, seems to have entered upon his arduous task with that spirit and enthusiasm which almost ensure success. His prospectus gives promise of a very able work, and we believe his talents are such as to guarantee that that promise will be redeemed. It is time that such a periodical should be established; and as such seems to be a very general feeling, we see nothing to prevent him from prospering in his undertaking. We cordially wish him the utmost success he can desire.

Now is the season for subscribing to the GARLAND. The year and the volume begin with this number. We will be greatly obliged to all those who do not permit the opportunity to pass without making use of it. Those who wish to possess the Series from the commencement can be supplied, several sets being still on hand. No lover of literature, and especially none who desire to assist in establishing a *bonne* literature, should be without it. We trust we shall have a large accession of supporters to the volume now begun.

Subscribers, in arrears, are earnestly requested to furnish us with the means of balancing their accounts. May we beg of them to favour us with the necessary funds, in order that they may no longer have occasion to reproach themselves for their neglect!