

OUR TABLE.

WE have watched with much solicitude the progress of Mr. Vattemare, who, in the course of his literary pilgrimage, has reached this city. It will be unnecessary to explain that the object of Mr. Vattemare is the noble and philanthropic one of uniting together, for the promotion of each other's happiness, of the whole human family; and this by means of comparatively easy attainment. We pass very lightly over that portion of the scheme which, in older countries, may be of the greatest interest, but which, here, is, comparatively, secondary and subordinate. We allude to the system of commerce, or exchange of curious specimens of art, and rare productions of nature, in the various kingdoms of which the scientific world is composed. In this department of Mr. Vattemare's magnificent project, we cannot pretend for many years to effect much. Our efforts must rather be directed to the more practically beneficial portions of the scheme—those which are designed to create among ourselves a system of mutual interchange of whatever is calculated to advance and improve the moral and intellectual condition of our people.

The plan submitted for the approval of our fellow-citizens, and which, we are pleased to learn, has already received the most liberal support from those best qualified to render it available, is one which, in the ordinary view of human nature, would appear chimerical and vain—being no less than a proposal to the various societies of this city to throw open their halls to the world at large—not indeed to diminish their usefulness to their present members, but to extend that usefulness to the whole community, to suffer the waters of knowledge to flow within the reach of every one who is willing to dip into the glorious stream. With a noble generosity, the Natural History Society have set an example to their fellow-labourers in the cause of knowledge, and have declared that whatever they possess will be given into the general fund for the instruction of the public—an example followed by the Montreal Library and the Mechanics' Institute, with scarcely a dissentient voice among the members of either association.

Preliminary meetings of the various literary societies have been held, at which the proposed amalgamation has been discussed, in a spirit of liberality deserving of the very highest commendation; declaratory resolutions have been adopted, expressive of the high appreciation in which the scheme is held, and the first steps taken towards the merging of the different bodies into one—to which no individuals or classes shall have an exclusive right, but to which the seeker after knowledge, whatever his origin or creed, may resort, and apply to his own use whatever may have been accumulated by the separate associations, in their individual or collective capacity.

THE NEW ERA.

ON the cover of the *Garland* the reader will find the prospectus of a periodical, to be published in Brockville, under the above title, and to be edited by Major Richardson, the celebrated author of *Wacousta*, *Ecarté*, the *Canadian Brothers*, &c. &c. It would be superfluous to speak of the ability of the gallant Major for the task he has undertaken, and, directing attention to the prospectus, we need only express the cordiality with which we welcome so efficient a fellow-labourer in the good cause of Canadian literature.

THE NEW YORK ALBION.

WE are happy to observe that the spirited publisher of this excellent periodical have announced their intention of furnishing a beautiful engraved view of Windsor Castle, to be issued early in the ensuing year. The subject is well chosen, as connected with the print of Buckingham Palace and the Portrait of Her Majesty, published during the last and present years.

THE third volume of the *Garland*, commenced with this number, is, we are pleased to say, almost wholly indebted to original sources for its attractions. That it will be found acceptable to our readers we cannot doubt, for the articles it contains are from pens with which they are well acquainted, and which are deservedly general favourites.

WE have been compelled to leave until a future number several articles—poetry and prose—which we had designed for this number, some of the papers published having extended to greater length than was originally anticipated. Owing to the same cause, several notices of new books have also been deferred.