

THE

# Canadian Independent.

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## SALUTATORY.

The announcement in the closing number of our last Volume, of the intention of the Editor of the *Canadian Independent* to retire from the editorial chair, must have filled our readers with surprise and deep regret, not unmingled with apprehension for the future of the Magazine. To no one has the prospect of a change in its management come more unwelcomely than to him, upon whom the lot has fallen to succeed him, and to the Publishing Company at whose request he has undertaken to do so. We had hoped, until we met in Hamilton, that our brother's decree had not been like the law of the Medes and Persians which altered not, but that some arrangement might have been devised by means of which he might have continued, at less cost of time and labour, to conduct its pages. His able and judicious execution of a difficult, and often a very delicate task had made us feel as if his continuance in the editorial chair were a necessity; or, at least, that in that position he was emphatically "the right man in the right place." These pages have been monthly growing in interest, and in public favour, very tangible proof of which has been afforded by a net increase of nearly three hundred subscribers during the past two years. Our brother's "settled judgment," however, was unalterable, and the Publishing Company were compelled, very reluctantly, to accept his resignation.

How we ever came to be persuaded to occupy the vacant chair, will ever be among the mysteries to us. We cannot but look back upon the act as one of great temerity. Our first sober thought on finding ourselves actually inditing our maiden "editorial" is, "what can a man do that cometh after the king?" We enter upon our charge under the heavy disadvantage, personally considered, of having had a most successful predecessor, and feel as a young preacher may be supposed to feel who is suddenly called to succeed to the pulpit of such a man as Jay, or Binney, or Beecher, and who is conscious all the while, that their genius and eloquence are made the standard of comparison by which to measure all his humbler efforts.