

of a literary journal, it will always find an audience sufficiently large to repay the author of the production.

It is an easy matter for one to re-echo the cry, that the field you enter upon is already fully occupied. This is an apparent truism which has long been stereotyped in the public mind; whereas there is in reality no department of literature, however brilliant may be its cultivators, but admits of room enough, both for improvement and further cultivation. Had the intellect of man bowed in acquiescence to this assertion when it was first made, and rested satisfied with what had been already done, both our language and literature would have been at present in a state of barbarous rudeness, and our condition as intellectual beings, of a description of which it would be difficult to form an idea.

In submitting a new Periodical to the public, therefore, we are only in some measure enlarging the means of human happiness, by opening up another channel from which, intellectual nourishment of a healthful and nutritious character may flow. It is not our intention to endeavour to supplant any contemporary, but rather to co-operate in advancing the welfare of mankind, by ministering to their intellectual improvement, and consequently, their social happiness.

Having taken up the position of public teachers, however wide or narrow may be the field of our exertions, one object will be kept constantly and steadily in view,—to win success, if it is to be won at all, by an undeviating adherence to truth and virtue. For this great purpose the charms of literature will lend their influence and their power. Fiction itself will be made to wear the mantle of virtue, by endeavouring to improve the heart, while it pleases the fancy—while cheerfulness “that nymph of healthiest hue” will give a buoyancy to our pages, which we trust will conduce to waft them far and wide over the land.

It is not our intention to fatigue our readers with a long address. We would rather, they should form a judgment from our performances, than from any promises in an introduction, however skillfully constructed. The “Provincial Magazine” will be sustained with the same spirit, with which it has been undertaken, and no exertions will be spared to make it in some measure worthy of the Provinces, and of the City whose name it bears. It has long been confidently asserted that no purely literary undertaking will succeed in Halifax—but the assertion, we believe, is unwarranted in every respect, for neither genius nor talent has any particular locality, but wherever they appear will shed a lustre not only upon every thing in their immediate neighbourhood, but their influence will be felt and welcomed in the remotest parts of the land. Under a consciousness of this truth our journal has been undertaken; if it has merit, it will support itself, if it wants it, it will pass away like its brethren into the land of forgetfulness.