

## OUR MONTHLY GOSSIP.

A volume of unpretending literature has been added to the few that the Provinces can claim. Our gatherings of the past twelve months are pressed and bound to the hand of our publishers, and the 1st vol. of 'The Provincial' is in the market. It may be now procured at the Book Stores, but we trust will not continue *Stationary*. By the creditable appearance it presents in the finished state, we hope that its circulation may be enlarged, so that its successors may go forth to a numerous circle of acquaintance to whose homes it may be welcome.

The infant literature of these British American Provinces is but struggling into existence, and needs the fostering hand of a generous public. It would be out of good taste to say anything in self-praise, but we may allude in terms of laudation to a contemporary that has been ushered into existence since 'The Provincial' began its career, of which we find a notice in a Canadian journal as follows—the *Anglo-American Magazine*, Toronto:—

'The December number of this serial which now lies before us, is decidedly the ablest which as yet has chipped the shell. Varied as the hues of the rainbow are the articles which the tact and industry of the editor has gathered together for the delectation and instruction of the Canadian "million;" and difficult, indeed, to please must be the palate which will not find in these pages food, at once appetising and nourishing. We had no previous conception that Canada could have supplied the *material* for such a literary *olio*: and if the energy and enterprise of the publisher meet not with a liberal "metallic" reward, most assuredly public spirit has yet to become a settler in our Province. The present completes the first volume of the *Anglo-American*, so that new subscribers have a good opportunity afforded them of enrolling themselves in Mr. Maclear's muster roll of clients. We do not like to use the word *patrons*, inasmuch as our decided opinion is that the purchasers of such a sterling work, are in point of fact the parties benefited and obliged.

We have said that our Provincial literature requires encouragement from the public; for there are many drawbacks to the success of a monthly journal which tend to retard its prosperity. The following newspaper notice of the *Anglo-American* will exhibit some of the difficulties encountered by our contemporary, and we have also to complain that a Post Office charge equal to the price of the Provincial is imposed upon every number passing to England or elsewhere beyond sea. And this tax of sixpence sterling must be prepaid or the Magazine cannot be sent by mail at all. This tends greatly to cut us off from our friends in Great Britain and the Islands, whose acquaintance we desire to cultivate.

'LEFT-HANDED FOSTERAGE OF CANADIAN LITERATURE.—It was with feelings of no ordinary disgust and indignation, that we perused the subjoined passages, from the "Editor's Shanty," in the December number of the "*Anglo-American*" magazine:

"THE MAJOR.—Did I mention to you, Doctor, that for the future the *Anglo-American* is to be deprived of the privilege enjoyed by newspapers—A FREE EXCHANGE?"

THE DOCTOR.—No; what do you mean?

THE MAJOR.—That the Toronto Post-office authorities have decided that the *Anglo* is, in future to enjoy the *advantages* incident on paying postage on all Newspapers received, but as a set-off to this, and as compensation to the proprietor, I suppose, the Magazine is to go free to newspaper exchanges. I think, if this is not left-handed encouragement to enterprise, I know not what else to call it.

THE DOCTOR.—On what grounds is the difference made?

THE MAJOR.—The *Anglo* not being a newspaper—