

WESLEYAN METHODIST MAGAZINE

OF CANADA.

APRIL, 1862.

“ARMINIANISM AND GRACE.”

This is the title of a pamphlet recently issued, and is, as we learn from a short note by way of preface, the re-publication of an article that appeared in the *Princeton Review* for January, 1856. We find only the name of the publisher on the title-page, but whether it has been issued on his own mere motion,” or for some parties unknown to the public, is not stated; but the reason assigned for its appearance now, is “the belief that its re-publication is fitted to be of service to the interests of religion in Canada:” and the fact is not concealed that it is designed as an assault upon the doctrines of the various bodies of Methodists in this Province. It is not, perhaps, necessary to inquire too closely into the motives of those who are just now endeavouring to give this pamphlet as wide a circulation as possible; or why the *valuable* article has been allowed for six years to lie in its light under the covers of the *Review* in which it first emitted its glowing rays; or what particular event has transpired within the last or present year to call forth this special effort to batter down “the stronghold of Methodism and Arminianism” in this Province: all these matters leave to those who have thus attempted to revive a controversy which in parties seem to have thought had been continued as far as was necessary clearly to define the views of each. With this preliminary notice of this re-publication in this Province, at this time, we direct our attention to the article which our Calvinistic friends have thus “delighted to peruse.”

The author sets out with the friendly assurance that “he has no desire to wound the feelings of his Arminian brethren.” The tender compassion expressed is very commendable to the writer, but was quite superfluous in respect to those towards whom it is exercised, as Arminians are not so easily wounded as seems to be supposed; especially after the fierce assaults they have endured for more than a century. The writer