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MONTREAL, FEBRUARY 1, 1864.

PLAIN SPEAKING.—I hope to utter nothing in the course of these lectures inconsistent with the courtesy of a gentleman, the patience of a scholar, and the candour and charity of a Christian. Any other line of conduct would disagree with the seriousness of my purpose, my consciousness of responsibility, my compassion for those whom I believe to be wrong, my reverence for the truth responsibility, my compassion for those whom I believe to be wrong, my reverence for the truth which I have to defend, my confidence in its power, and my persuasion that its effects would be weakened if my spirit were to misrepresent it. But on the other hand it would be repugnant to my nature, and unaccordant with my moral convictions, to search for gentle words when the strongest expressions are imperatively demanded. If we must sometimes have it so, give us vertetly before blundness. I would rather perish in the iron gripe of an unpalatable truth, than be daudled and caressed by the velvet paw of deception and falsity. Be not offended with me if I call what I feel acquired to believe it inconsistency inconsistency. compelled to believe is inconsistency—inconsistency; falsehood—falsehood; hatred—hatred; nonsense nonsense; stuff—sluff.—The Logic of Atheism. Lect. I. Pp. 3, 4. By the Rev. Henry Batchelor.

OUR REVIEWERS.

We have every reason to congratulate ourselves on the reception of our first number. Nothing could be more thoroughly gratifying than the fact that the Canadian Patriot has attracted the attention and called forth the special criticisms of some of the leading journals of the Province. Nor is this gratification at all lessened from the circumstance of some of those criticisms being avowedly hostile. For instance, a journal of no less importance than the Montreal Gazette, has devoted a whole column of its valuable space for the purpose of joining issue with us on the bold stand we have taken in some of our articles and reviews. This fact of itself speaks volumes in favor of our new Magazine-The Montreal Gazette does not beat the air in search of subjects, or lend its columns to the discussion of events which are of no moment. The Canadian Patriot is therefore "a great fact," this leading journal being witness, and this is something to be proud of. Of course the criticisms are hostile, as may have been expected. We are not in concord with the Gazette in its covert advocacy of a dismemberment of the British Empire, and the disruption of this Province therefrom ; -hence it scowls! But then seewling is infinitely better than silence.

The criticism on our review of "Voices from the Hearth" can only excite a smile of pity from all competent judges. The Gazette ought never to meddle either with poets or poetry. The talent of its staff does not run in that direction, and all its attempts at poetical criticism only end in floundering. Well! after all, the Gazette admits that our selections are made with judgment.

The Montreal Telegraph contents itself with repeating the exact words of the Gazette. How appropriate!

The Daily Witness says, "whilst we are somewhat disposed to take umbrage at the tone of pretence assumed in this opening number, we are quite willing to admit its power. The articles are well selected and will repay perusal. 'For Life' is a touching story, and contains a fearful warning against dissipation. 'Shakespeare on Wine' will be read with all the greater interest, now that we are approaching his ter-cen-