

## EDITORIAL.

With this number closes the First Volume of the "MAPLE LEAF." We look back upon the past with thankfulness, and forward to the future with hope. The Magazine has attained a large circulation for the time, and we trust, by increasing attention to the Editorial work, and suitable co-operation in the printing department, it will gain a large accession of friends.

It has preserved from the commencement its distinguishing features—its Canadian characteristics. We have felt that a proper attention to the interesting traits of the country would render it entertaining and useful; these we shall continue to develop by description, accompanied, when practicable, with cuts. Our talented contributors Mrs. Traill and Mrs. Hayward, will continue their pleasant articles, while other native writers have kindly promised the assistance of their pens. We shall now send the July number to all who take the Magazine, with the request that it may be carefully examined, and, if possible, retained.

*The first year of any work is the year of difficulty and trial above all others.* The "Maple Leaf" has gained a position; and it remains to be seen whether a native work will be sustained, so that it may be improved, and embellish it as it deserves. We ought to have a literature decidedly national but Canada will not take her place, in this respect, with other countries, until she endeavors to foster and extend native productions with genuine zeal. Many periodicals which have been projected here, have failed for the want of that interest in their success which they needed, and one after another have been discontinued, and their places supplied with foreign publications; The expense of a small periodical is great. The subscriber who reads each number, and quietly criticises this fault, or dissects that sentence; sees one cut too dark, another too coarse; finds the paper execrable, and the whole number wanting in taste, little dreams of the amount of money and toil that one issue has cost; or how gladly every error would be avoided for the future, if large subscription lists and prompt payments would furnish the means. Money almost can do everything. It can import paper from abroad when there is none at home, and by offering large inducements, secure elegant engravings, perfect typography and entertaining articles; and hurrying all forward, send forth a Magazine creditable in every respect to the country. This we will do as soon as possible—in the mean time comfort ourselves with the reflection that all *great* enterprises require time to mature them.

We shall be glad to receive articles intended for the "Maple Leaf" early in each month. They should reach Montreal generally on the 10th.

Attention is called to the Prospectus of the Magazine which appears on the inside of the cover.

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Lines on a Church-yard are in type, and will appear in our next number.