

COLONIAL AND HOME LIBRARY.

THE recent change in the Copyright Law, which threatened to create in Canada a literary dearth, has not been without some good effects. The English publishers, who up to the present time, have acted upon the belief that only the very wealthy wished to read, have begun to discover that by making their prices more reasonable and moderate, they might possibly make their profits greater, by reducing the expense of buying books, and, as a necessary consequence, increasing the number of purchasers. Acting on this assumption, Mr. Murray of Albemarle Street, London, purposes publishing a series of valuable works, under the title of the "Colonial and Home Library," at prices within the compass of the means of the middling classes—a project which has met with considerable favor in the Mother Country, and which, if carried out with liberality and enterprise, cannot fail to meet with extensive encouragement in the Colonies.

The projector has issued a prospectus, setting forth in a clear and satisfactory manner, the objects he has in view. "In order," he says, "that the highly intelligent and educated population of our Colonies may not suffer from the withdrawal of their accustomed supplies of books, and with a view to obviate the complaint that a check might in consequence be raised to their intellectual advancement, Mr. Murray has determined to publish a series of attractive and useful works, by approved authors, at a rate which shall place them within reach of the means not only of the colonists, but also of a large portion of the less wealthy classes at home, who will thus benefit by the widening of the market for our literature: and the 'Colonial Library' will consequently be so conducted that it may claim to be considered as a 'Library for the Empire.' Owing to the very low price placed upon the numbers of this series, the undertaking can succeed only if it meets with strenuous support from the Colonial Government at home and abroad in giving effect to the law, and in supporting the just rights of British genius, industry, and manufactures, by preventing illicit importation of foreign reprints. It is also necessary for its progress and success that it be favoured with the patronage of the reading public in all parts of the British dominions; and the chief aim and object of the publisher will be to render it worthy of their countenance.

"Mr. Murray's 'Colonial Library' will furnish the settler in the backwoods of America, and the occupant of the remotest cantonments of our Indian dominions, with the resources of recreation and instruction, at a moderate price, together with many new books within a short period of

their appearance in England; while the student and lover of literature at home, who has hitherto been content with the loan of a book from a book-club, or has been compelled to wait for its tardy perusal from the shelves of a circulating library, or perhaps has satisfied his curiosity by the scanty extracts in magazines or reviews, may now become possessed of the work itself, at the moment of its publication, and at a cost of little beyond that entailed by either of the methods above-mentioned. He may at the same time lay up a permanent library in a condensed and portable form.

"It will no doubt prove a source of satisfaction to the lovers of English literature in the Colonies to know that they are enjoying the intellectual gratification of the works of native authors without doing wrong or injury to those authors' interests."

Already several books, published as parts of the "Colonial and Home Library," have reached this country. They are got up in a highly respectable style, suitable for preservation, and are incomparably superior to the best of the cheap American reprints. Every person who wishes to form a collection of useful books, at a moderate cost, should make himself acquainted with the character of the books and their prices, by which he will learn at how cheap a rate he may provide himself with every variety of written instruction and entertainment.

VIEWS OF MONTREAL.

Messrs. ANMOUR & RAMSAY have in course of publication a series of handsome Lithographic Views of Montreal, the first part of which has already appeared. The Views are finely drawn by Mr. Duncan, and the Lithography is well executed by Mr. Matthews. The work reflects credit upon the city, and, we are happy to hear, is likely to be extensively patronised.

THE LOVERS' QUARREL.

THE plate in the present number, it will be noticed, is that which should have accompanied the story of "The Lovers' Quarrel," in the Garland for October. It is an exquisite illustration of the scene where "Childie Willal" and the Lady Sibyl exchange the miniatures which each had given to the other, as a pledge of love and constancy.

Those of the subscribers to the Garland who have the volume bound at the close of the year, will have to instruct the binder to transpose the plate, in order that it may accompany the tale it is designed to illustrate.