

## EDITORIAL.

Hours, golden hours, fly rapidly now, in these last days of the year 1852! Gladness and brightness have painted bewitching imagery for the future—the future, looming up vast and trembling in a delicious semi-distinctness which renders it lovely. Everywhere the sky is tinted with warm hues, and surmounting piles of gorgeous clouds is the bow of hope, whose extreme sections embrace the year 1853.

We tender our readers the complimentary expressions suited to this happy period. In other days our hearty wish of long life and prosperity called forth a glow of kindly feeling from a few tried friends perhaps. We realise the wish more fully now. We feel bound to do our part to make the New Year a happy one, and throw in our mite of influence on the side of virtue, and excellence, and high attainment in knowledge, and self culture. Ideas ought to glow, and agitate, and actually effervesce in the editorial mind! What glimpses of the great and good our pen must portray! what soaring to the grandeur of heaven for motives! what skimming on thought's untiring wing from continent to island, from mountain to valley, from ocean to river, in measureless circuits throughout this world of wonders, to glean items of information and amusement for our readers. We promise to do our best to please them, craving at the same time, their kind indulgence for those imperfections which a new work almost inevitably displays, and assuring all who take an interest in our progress, that our motto is, improvement from month to month.

The Publisher has redeemed his promise, made in the December number, and though the first chapter of the "Governor's Daughter," is long, we are sure that the interest is so admirably sustained, that our subscribers will not regret it. The authoress has written us a letter, and as it explains the design and scope of her beautiful tale, more fully than we could, we make no apology for inserting it here.

DEAR EDITOR.—One of the readers of your excellent little periodical suggested to me the idea of writing an article every month, illustrative of the Natural History and Botany of Canada, and expressly adapted to the capacity of the younger branches of the families who take the "Maple Leaf." There is nothing indeed, in your magazine, which may not be read with advantage, both by the young and old from the extreme purity that pervades its pages; but, however intelligent the younger part of your readers may be, there will necessarily be articles beyond their limited comprehension, and it is an advantage to have some pleasant reading for all. Acting upon the suggestion of my friend, I immediately set to work, and have written the first chapter of a little tale, which, if it meet your views, I will continue monthly, until I have introduced all the interesting portions of the Natural History of the Colony. I have cast it in as simple a form as I could do, to suit the youngest capacity, and if you think it need any apology for the Juvenile style I have chosen, I can only say that few mothers will quarrel with information conveyed in an amusing form—an easy step to the ladder of knowledge.

With much respect, and best wishes, I remain, Mr. Editor,

Very faithfully yours, C. P. T.

Our respected friend and Contributor, Uncle Van, has sent us two very excellent articles, which will form fine accompaniments to the "Governor's Daughter." We are sorry that they did not arrive in time to insert them both. We give his sketch of the Wolf, and promise to make room for his remarks on Rice and its varieties, which with a drawing of Rice Lake, kindly furnished by an accomplished lady, will add much interest to our next number. Our space does not admit of our inserting several communications which our friends have kindly sent us, we shall do justice to them as soon as possible.