

# The Canadian Spectator.

VOL. III.—NO. I.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1880.

\$2.00 PER ANNUM.

## CONTENTS:

THE TIMES.	EMERALDS.
1879—IN MEMORIAM.	CORRESPONDENCE.
BANKING REFORM.	POETRY.
FASHIONS IN POLITICS.	TRADE, FINANCE, STATISTICS.
HOUSE WARMING.	CHESS.
A CANADIAN HIND AND PANTHER.	MUSICAL.

## TO OUR FRIENDS.

The CANADIAN SPECTATOR has lived through two years of hard and difficult times, and ventures now to appeal to its many friends for a renewal of the expression of their confidence. When the journal was started it was said on all hands that an independent paper could not live in Canada; and when it was seen that the SPECTATOR intended to give the public articles fair as to politics and first-class as to literary merits, the sapient shook their heads and said: "The thing cannot last; there is no market for such wares." But the supply has created the demand, and now the SPECTATOR has a recognised place and power in the Dominion. The topics of the day have been discussed with frankness and fearlessness; those having an opinion and able to express it have had a hearing, and no phase of religious or political faith has been denied freedom of speech in its columns.

Additional departments have been opened from those first contemplated; e.g., the Trade and Finance article, which is conducted in an able and trustworthy manner, so that commercial men may confidently rely upon the figures they find under that heading.

Then there is space devoted to a review and criticism of what is done in the musical world generally; the editor of which understands his work thoroughly, and is left free from all limitations and restrictions imposed by managerial considerations of job printing or advertising.

Last of all comes the Chess, the conduct of which is most clever and praiseworthy, say the chess players; in fact those chess players are so delighted with what they find in the Chess Column of the SPECTATOR that they have sent a numerous signed requisition that the chess editor be allowed two columns per week instead of one.

The SPECTATOR has now passed into the hands of a Joint Stock Company, Limited, with a largely increased capital, so that friends need entertain no fear, and enemies may put away all hope, that it will come to an abrupt and speedy termination. Already it is demonstrated that an independent and high class literary paper can live in Canada, and now it is intended that demonstration shall be given to the effect that said paper can command prosperity. No effort will be spared to make the journal better and more useful than it has ever yet been. Reviews will be thorough and searching; criticism will be fair and candid; researches after right and truth will be conducted fearlessly, and every endeavour will be made to put down cant and foul hypocrisy, and to promote the cause of real morality and religion among men.

## THE TIMES.

### GREETING.

Let me give warm and earnest New Year's greetings to my readers. For two years now we have moved along a chequered way together, each helping the other I hope. I have spared no pains to give a really good weekly paper to the public of Canada. A large number of the best writers in the country have joined me in this labour of love. I have criticised men and things at home and abroad freely—a little too freely many have thought, but that is a matter of opinion. Faults have been committed of course, but then, good friends, I shall not get much harm if only those without faults will cast stones at me. Let us leave the past to History and the God of all mercy, and wishing each other a happy new year do all that in us lies to make each other happy by making each other good. The battle of life is pressed upon us on all sides; let us go into the year of grace 1880 with high resolves to do true and permanent work.

### THE 'GLOBE' ON THE POLITICAL ECONOMY SOCIETY.

On Christmas Day the Toronto *Globe* led off in leaders with an article on the sweet and tender sentiments of kindness and brotherliness, and evidently speaking for the main portion of its own staff, especially the Editor, said:—"As thoughtful and reverent people get older, they ever tend to regard Christmas more and more in its religious aspect." Scripture was quoted with approval, and poetry with satisfaction. One would expect to read on and on from that first article through columns filled with tender expressions of brotherly sentiments. But alas for all things human and the Editor of the *Globe*, in the very next column stands an article headed "*An Annexation Bray*," and a little further on the report of a meeting, held in Montreal, will show the reason for this witticism writ large. I spoke at that meeting, and the name Bray suggested a joke to the man who rejoices in the better and more aristocratic name of Brown. But with that one flash of ponderous humour the wit died out, and the *Globe* got back to its normal condition of mind, in which it bears false witness against its neighbour, lies and slanders with a marvel of patience and persistency. Those who had been bold enough to attend a meeting to establish a Political Economy Society, without having first sought the advice and permission of the *Globe's* Editor, were scoffed at as "weak-minded individuals," "agitators," "renegade Englishmen," "would-be traitors," and "short-sighted noodles." In the Christmas article it was said:—"The influence of this annual commemoration of His birth is to make men feel a real brotherhood," and then, apparently, with a sigh of relief, Mr. Brown turns to the more congenial task of abusing some members of that brotherhood who will not regard him as the eldest and wisest of all the family.

When the facts of the case are considered, it is not at all surprising that the *Globe* rarely speaks of a political, or any other kind of opponent, but in terms of vilest violence. An error in judgment early in life has compelled Mr. Brown to perpetuate a literary and political crime. I have it on the best possible authority that when the *Globe* was started, its Editor and proprietor, having taken stock of the people he had to deal with, came to the conclusion that strong, the strongest and most pointed language, would be the most likely to convince them and get their subscriptions and carry their votes. He thought he saw that they had neither time, nor inclination, nor culture for the nicer courtesies of political and social life, and acting upon that, the *Globe* began its work of misrepresentation and abuse. If Jones was suspected of petty larceny, the *Globe* called him a thief, and that settled the matter. And, judging of success according to the merely