PREFACE.

America was first formed. Besides being known as the "Father of the System" here, Mr. Gowan is also admitted to be the father of the Press in Canada. His song, the "Crimson Banner," almost every Orangeman knows. His "Annals of Orangeism," it is hoped, he will republish, as it is the best work on the subject ever got up.

MRS. HEMANS, the wife of a British Officer; SIR WALTER SCOTT, BART. the Scottish Novelist; and T. B. MACAULAY, Esq. M.P., the English Historian, are too well-known to be noted here. The Poem of the latter, entitled "The Battle of the League," is a convincing proof that in France, as in the United Empire, in open, honest warfare, our Protestant forefathers have been more than a match for their Popish enemies.

WM. MCCOMB, Belfast, is a respectable Bookseller. His verses on the death of Charlotte Elizabeth are worthy alike of the poet and his theme. He is known to the philanthropist as the chief spirit in getting up the beautiful building used as an institution for the deaf, dumb, and blind, at Belfast. It is one of the most attractive edifices of the northern commercial metropolis.

Of the minor writers with whom we have to do, we have little to say. Some we honour,—others we may never know. The names quoted are already "household words," of which any people might justly be proud. Let, then, those whom we have overlooked, owing to time, or place, or ignorance, sympathise with the

viii