

of all who feel that THE CIVILIAN is needed and can do, even measurably well, the work that is to be done.

Our general object is to represent honourably and faithfully the public service of the Dominion of Canada. At the outset we know neither class, rank, nor location, and we hope to carry on our work in the spirit in which we have begun. Should the force of circumstances compel us to pay more attention to one class than to another, we hope that our efforts will be devoted mainly to the great body of hard-working people whose services are humblest and whose rewards are least—not because this class is more important than another, but because upon it all the others rest, and only by defending, helping and improving the lowliest can we raise the tone and improve the work of the whole service.

It may seem that the present journal is but an inadequate representative of the great idea THE CIVILIAN is designed to embody; but only when all our greatest institutions have apologized for their small beginnings shall we feel called upon to apologize. A beginning is a great thing, if it be the beginning of great things.

The other pages of this number will explain more clearly the scope and design of THE CIVILIAN. As we learn our field better we shall try to occupy it more fully. Meantime, we ask of all the well-disposed the hearty support which disinterested effort in a good cause merits. Thus supported, we shall in great part realize our ideal of being useful to the public service of Canada, and thus in the deepest sense useful to the Canadian people.

## THE OUTLOOK.

This being its first issue, THE CIVILIAN makes no loud genealogical boast. It comes forward, nevertheless, with confidence, as of one coming to its own. It feels itself among friends from the start, and true friends, we all know, are slow to criticise, swift to help. We trust that it is needless to specify in great detail the numberless ways in which THE CIVILIAN is to justify its existence, since anyone who possesses even a little imagination may grasp the possibilities for himself. But it is fit that we should give reasons for the faith that is in us: which is that we shall be, like Macbeth, king hereafter; or that, like Banquo, our children shall be kings.

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The present editors are, however, not unmindful of their difficulties. We know the civil service, at any rate that portion of it which has its habitat at Ottawa. We know how, with its apparent denial of mutual interests, it has hitherto resisted in great measure all attempts to consolidate it, or to infuse a spirit of brotherhood and mutual helpfulness. We know that it is diverse in aim where it should be single of aim; that it is individualistic and heterogeneous to an unexampled degree. We have heard the service cursed more roundly by civil servants than by the most vengeful outsider, and ever-and-anon rises the dolorous cry of a section of the "Old Guard"—men whose morning song and evening prayer is that the former days were better than these. Living in the world, they are not of it. As Chesterfield said when he had become an old man, "Tyrav-