

"Man's obligations infinite, of course His life should prove, that he perceives their force."

In ushering into the world a new publication, the managers feel all the diffidence, which can attach itself to those, who are entering upon an untried scene of labour. The responsibility which they thus voluntarily assume, may by some be considered, as the arrogation of powers beyond their reach; and by others interpreted, to arise from an ardent zeal to cherish and extend religious views and feelings. The last is the only construction they could admit. Their sole object is to benefit their christian brethren. They regret however, that more able hands have not been enlisted in the undertaking; but this shall not withhold them from commencing the good work.

The want of a Religious Paper in the Canadas, has long been acknowledged and deplored; and a number of unsuccessful attempts have been made, to the permanent establishment of one. The causes which have operated to defeat the accomplishment of so desirable an object, it is hoped, are vanishing under the exhilarating influence of present appearances. The rapid succession, which has been exhibited for a few years past, in the rise of religious and benevolent Societies and Institutions, together with a corresponding degree of zeal and engagedness, manifested on the part of the servants of the Crucified Redeemer, are among the most flattering circumstances which can engage our attention. They are the promising features of a still greater change; and not an inhabitant, who can trace the letters, or understand the glorious principles, of the BIBLE, should be ignorant of them. They serve to arouse, to animate, and to encourage us onward in the great field of labour, where each has a part to perform. A few years past, and where was the Society for promoting CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE, the BIBLE, TRACT and SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION Societies, the Sunday Schools, and many charitable Institu-

tions, which have arisen to ameliorate the condition of our poor and our sick? These have sprung up with the rapidity of thought; and are spreading their salutary influences, throughout the Provinces. They are opening up to our view, a brighter and a more glorious era, when one sentiment shall pervade all hearts, and one object unite all hands.—Such are the plausible grounds, upon which we form the encouraging hope, that our exertions will prove successful.

It is not the cause of individual man or party, for which we contend; it is the cause of the whole world—it is a cause on which depend, the destinies of souls, and to which they will adhere when time shall be no more.

The field of enterprise, which we are about to enter, is not destitute of her champions. No, they rise up on the bleak coasts of Labrador, as well as in the proud cities of Europe. Their voice is heard in dreary Iceland, and on the burning sands of Africa—the cheering results of their labours are exhibited in India, and on the islands of the Pacific. Such is the comprehensive range of their exertions; and such are some of the indications to justify us in the assertion, that the redeeming spirit slumbers not.

In the full tide of prospective indulgence, an extended vista opens up to our view, clustering thick with the humble followers of Jesus, beckoning us onward; and while the current of feeling, which led us to enter the list of engagement in a cause so ennobling, continues to flow; (and may it never cease,) so long shall we be found ranging among that mighty phalanx that is raising the loud *Pæan* to the *Most High*.

ON THE NEW-YEAR.

Another year has rolled over our heads, and is gone as a vision of the night; its joys and pleasures, its cares and anxieties, have passed down the stream of time, and will no more delight or grieve us: we look back on it, as a tale that was told—