

# THE GUARDIAN,

*A MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF*

**Education and General Literature.**

---

---

## TO OUR READERS.

PROGRESS is the motto of the age and the Province of New Brunswick is quite alive to its importance. In all the branches of industry practised within its confines, steady advancement is being made. Improvements are not only readily adopted, but are inquired after. It is clearly seen, that to run the world's race, men must exert themselves to apply knowledge, as well as manual dexterity to their varied employments. While improvements are going on in the scientific and material state of the community, we should expect that literature would be in no backward condition; neither is it so. A great mass of reading matter of good quality is perused and books are within the reach of almost all. Many take pride in searching for beauties in the poet, and find pleasure even in the graver tones of the historian; while there are not a few who have tasked their faculties in the composition of essays in many branches of literature. The hurried effusions of the day, however, are much oftener the extent of their endeavours. A letter upon some small local dispute or political job, more frequently engages their pens than an article fit for general reading. A Magazine literature is required to foster such talent, and in this Province there is none. Magazines are imported in great quantities, it is true, but they are not ours: they belong to other people; we seem merely to have the privilege of reading them; they are, as it were, beyond us. The valuable ones mostly belong to Britain; while America produces some that are excellent, but a great many that are very trashy.