

"The profit of the earth is for all; the King himself is served by the field."-Eccles. v. 9.

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## A FEW WORDS TO OUR READERS—THE OLD YEAR AND THE NEW.

The present offers a fitting opportunity for making a few remarks of a seasonable nature referable both to our readers and ourselves, and the great interests which it is the leading object of our journal to protect and promote. Another year, completing the first half of the nineteenth century, has glided away from us, and is gone to tell its tale of good or ill, of whatever mortals have

done within its circuit. At such an epoch as the present, every well-disciplined mind must feel the peculiar force of that great salutary lesson which speaks of a moral responsibility, which none can possibly evade; and of those solemn and important duties which men owe to one another, to their country and their God. At the end! of a year, all prudent men of business balance their accounts, that they may ascertain exactly how they stand, and the actual progress, if any, which they have made, It would be a happy thing, if men evinced the same reasonable solicitude, in regard to their intellectual and moral condition, since it is more especially upon the latter that all true enjoyment and the permanent. prosperity of nations depend.

The first feeling which a retrospect of the old year is fitted to awaken, both in individuals and communities, is that of devout gratitude to the Giver of all, for mercies received, while the opening of the new year inspires the industrious citizen and humble Christian, with the cheering hope of a continuance of the same, blended with an increased desire to be found more worthy of