

CANADA HEALTH JOURNAL.

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SALUTATORY.

WE herewith present you with the first number of the CANADA HEALTH JOURNAL. Its risks and responsibilities have been duly considered, and are confidently assumed. Editor and publishers, alike interested in its success, are not dependent on it as a means of support, and do not expect an adequate remuneration for their labour. They only desire a sufficient patronage to insure them against absolute loss, and therewith they will be content.

The character and aims of the JOURNAL are set forth in the prospectus, to be found on another page. To disseminate among the people proper ideas on the important subject HOW TO LIVE, is the object we have in view in its publication. It may be said we have undertaken an unsatisfactory and thankless task. Right well do we know that the preacher of reform—in matters sanitary and social—as well as in matters religious and moral—is often little else than “the voice of one crying in the wilderness.” Let him speak wisely and call loudly, yet too often his words will fall on inattentive ears,—his labour be in vain—his exertions unheeded and unrewarded. In nothing, perhaps, has this been more marked than in sanitary reforms. Yet the labour of those who have spoken and written in advocacy of the laws of hygiene has not been altogether fruitless. Much of the old wilful ignorance and culpable indifference is now being dissipated. The laws of health are now more studied; to some extent their warnings heeded—their teachings accepted. In their public relations is this more particularly noticeable. By improved ventilation, sewerage and water supply, the death rate has been lowered in many places. In the lanes of many a large English city have fevers, wasting disease and death, been checked by the admission of the precious sunlight, and the use of the broom. Consumption has been drained off with the dirty water from many a New England Town, and the marsh fevers of the West have fled before the engineer and the architect, where the