

# THE CITY MAGAZINE;

Devoted to the Interests of

YOUNG MEN ENGAGED IN COMMERCIAL PURSUITS.

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## OUR POSITION.

Man is a progressive being. If we trace him from the dawn of his existence down to the present moment, the recording page of history will furnish us with sufficient proofs of his actual state at that time; of his position since, and our own observation and experience of the world, will lead us to contemplate his present situation. Although some of the ancients cultivated pretty successfully, and attained great proficiency both in learning, and a knowledge of many of the arts and sciences, nevertheless, it is pretty generally admitted, that were our ancestors to be called from their tombs, to view the gigantic strides which the world is making onward to a perfect state of civilization and enlightenment, they would actually look upon the existent scene as totally incredible.

The proud position which Europe and America at present hold, when considered in relation to what they were only half a century ago, will form, indeed, to the thinking observer, a striking contrast, and will not fail to make him reflect upon the inexhaustible treasures of Nature, and their intimate connection with the faculties of Man.

It is becoming evident that the time is rapidly approaching, when more and more respect will be paid to Man's higher nature, and he will gradually cease to be looked upon, as the mere manual slave. Let us not be misunderstood. We do not mean to despise either manual or the compound descriptions of labour. No! We consider them a blessing, and as such we

only wish to see them blended, and falling into a beautiful harmony, with the intellectual portion of Man's being.

That such a spirit of progress has been for sometime abroad in the Mother country, will appear to be pre-eminently the case, when we look at the fruit of its workings, in the many, and valuable Institutions, with which her cities are studded; and when we view some of their noblest structures reared side by side with the Halls of Commerce.

That Canada, and more particularly this City, has felt the benignant effects of such an influence, is evinced from the growing desire among our young men, engaged in commercial pursuits, to better their intellectual and social condition; our primary object will therefore be to advocate an abbreviation of business hours.

We would have our young men remember, that great achievements are generally uncharacteristic in their outset. And the destiny which overhung the success of many of our most distinguished men has not unfrequently been hinged upon the most trivial circumstance.

Our greatest moral force agitations, which were based upon broad principles, have been hatched in the minds of but one or two kindred spirits; and have not unfrequently had in their youthful career but inauspicious symptoms of their ultimate success. Although a cloud of uncertainty would seem to hang over our early endeavours; still we would fain hope that