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INTRODUCTORY.

IT would be ungracious to send forth our first number for 1873 without expressing our gratitude to those who have supported our enterprise through its first year of trial. By their aid we hope we have been enabled in some measure to surmount the belief, which seemed to be fixed in Canadian minds, that, in a literary way, nothing good could come out of Canada.

The management and general principles of the Magazine remain unchanged. We shall still endeavour to combine literary amusement with the practical treatment of Canadian questions. We shall still, also, be entirely neutral between political parties, though we can never, in deference to party, abstain from giving utterance to what we believe to be the truth.

THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE DOMINION—CONSIDERED WITH
REFERENCE TO THE PRESENT SCALE OF PRICES AND WAGES.

BY E. A. MEREDITH, LL.D.

Under Secretary of State for the Provinces.

THE utter inadequacy of the salaries paid to the Ministers of the Crown, the Judges of our Courts, and generally to the public servants of the Dominion, has of late been frequently animadverted upon by the public press, and was, during the last Session of Parliament, frankly admitted on more than one occasion by members of the Government, both in the Senate

and the House of Commons. The fact itself has indeed for very many years past been painfully recognized by the persons most interested in the question—the entire body of the servants of the Government.

The present scale of official salaries in the Dominion does not differ materially from that which obtained 25 or 30 years ago in the old Province of Canada. In the interval,