

CANADIAN
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TO OUR READERS.

With our present number we complete the fourth volume of the *Canadian Merchants' Magazine*, and we cannot do so without again thanking our subscribers for their continued countenance and support. Commenced at a period when the tide of adversity which has swept so fearfully over Canada was just setting in, we have not passed through the last two years without many painful evidences of the severity of that commercial depression which, unfortunately, has not yet passed away. Out of our subscription list of nearly one thousand names in 1857, we find that nearly one-third have either failed in, or retired from business.

It is gratifying to be able to state that, notwithstanding this fact, at no former period was the number of our subscribers greater than at present; and should the anticipations of a bountiful harvest be realized, we hope to be able greatly to increase our present list.

We have to thank those gentlemen in the various Public Departments, who have so obligingly favoured us with valuable statistics and public documents, and also those members of the mercantile community who have contributed to our pages.

Having secured the assistance of an able writer, who has contributed to our Magazine during the past few months, we can confidently assure our