

scend to the plane of questionable morals. On the other hand rather will it seek to provide that high order of entertainment and instruction which it is the constant desire of all right-minded persons to seek.

The publishers have concentrated upon the work the best available talent; the contributions throughout will be unexceptionable, and the special departments edited by capable and experienced writers.

It is intended to present to Canadian readers a periodical worthy the name of Canada, and one that will compare favorably with the best magazines of England and the United States.

The publication will be first of all Canadian; it will always seek to further Canadian art and literature, and in every way to develop Canadian character. But although it will be thoroughly in sympathy with Canadian aims, aspirations and hopes, it will not be so exclusively Canadian that Canadians won't read it; for we are inclined to the belief that the people of Canada like to hear occasionally about the people of other lands as well as about themselves.

We shall endeavor to make the periodical of such widespread general interest that the readers of Halifax and Vancouver will find as much to attract between its covers as those of the city of the office of publication.

As will at once be seen, our aims are lofty and aspiring; it must be admitted also that they are noble as well, and should commend themselves, we think, to the magazine readers of Canada.

The publishers appreciate the magnitude and difficulty of the task they have undertaken, in the fact of the extensive competition which the venture will have to face and the prevailing conservatism of the reading public, but neither the existence of the one nor the persistence of the other shall deter them from endeavoring to conscientiously fulfil the substantial task they have set themselves. It therefore will remain with the public to show its appreciation of the efforts being made in its behalf.

The editor's earnest hope is that MASSEY'S MAGAZINE will be considered wor-

thy the same hearty good-will with which it greets its readers to-day.

Finally, as regards our contemporaries, we ask but a "fair field and no favor." Should the contents of this periodical prove of sufficient merit to interest them, MASSEY'S MAGAZINE will always study to reciprocate that friendly feeling of brotherhood which a new publication has some right to expect when it presents itself for entrance to the fraternal world of letters.

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THE COPYRIGHT QUESTION.

Since the arrival and departure of Hall Caine, the outlook on the copyright question is much clearer than it has been for some years past. By the joint efforts of that gifted author, who through his labors in Canada proves himself a most able diplomatist as well, the representative of the British Copyright Association, Mr. F. R. Daldy, and the Canadian Copyright Association, this vexed question which for some time has been the subject of much dispute and controversy has apparently been amicably disposed of. We may reasonably expect the general adoption by the Canadian Government of the suggestions offered in the draft bill presented at the conference held in Ottawa to consider the question.

It is certainly to the credit of all parties connected with the matter that the subject was approached in such a conciliatory spirit. Interested parties on this side of the water who a few weeks ago were clamoring for special legislation, and denouncing those who opposed their views in England, are now the most lavish in praise of their fair-minded brothers across the sea, and it is but natural to infer that this spirit is reciprocal. It frequently happens that a trivial misunderstanding or a difference of minor importance, if approached in a spirit of reconciliation, leads to a lasting attachment and a more pronounced friendship than hitherto was known to exist.

The *entente cordiale* indulged in at Ottawa certainly bears out this hypothesis judging by the speeches that were delivered there.