

O U R T A B L E .

MURRAY'S COLONIAL AND HOME LIBRARY.

Mr. Murray has commenced nobly the redemption of the promise made by him when he originally proposed the publication of the "Colonial and Home Library." Already seven parts have reached the Canadian publishers, Messrs Armour & Ramsay, and are offered to the public, at what all will readily acknowledge, are sufficiently moderate prices.* The books to which we refer are:—

Borrow's Bible in Spain—two parts.
 Bishop Heber's Indian Journals—four parts.
 Irby and Mangles' Travels in the Holy Land—one part.

The handsome and substantial style in which these works have been got up present a striking and pleasing contrast to the slovenly reprints to which we have been accustomed on this continent. Indeed, their appearance is all that even the admirers of typography and paper can desire—no apparent effort at cheapness being at all visible about them. For a permanent library nothing can be better, and the selection of works, from the sample before us, we have reason to believe will be unexceptionable.

We cannot do better than to give an extract from the Publisher's explanation of the design, premising that the pledges given appear to be most honorably redeemed:

Mr. Murray's Colonial Library will furnish the settler in the backwoods of America, and the occupant of the remotest cantonments of our Indian dominions, with the resources of recreation and instruction, at a moderate price, together with many new books within a short period of their appearance in England; while the student and lover of literature at home, who has hitherto been content with the loan of a book from a book-club, or has been compelled to wait for its tardy perusal from the shelves of a circulating library, or perhaps has satisfied his curiosity by the scanty extracts in Magazines or Reviews, may now become possessed of the work itself, at the moment of its publication, and at a cost little beyond that entailed by either of the methods above mentioned. He may at the same time lay up a permanent library in a condensed and portable form.

It will no doubt prove a source of satisfaction to the lovers of English literature in the Colonies, to know that they are enjoying the intellectual gratification of the native Authors, without doing any wrong or injury to those Authors' interests.

Persons residing in the distant quarters of the world to which the dominions of Queen Victoria extend, and unacquainted with the practical system of authorship and publication, may probably never have dreamed that they were doing an act of injustice to the Authors, for whose works they perhaps entertained the sincerest devotion, by the encouragement they have been in the ha-

bit of giving to foreign reprints. But the reason why the American, French, or other pirates of British copyrights, have no difficulty in producing cheap books is that they pay nothing to the Author of them. They cannot publish the works of their own authors at the same rate. But besides availing themselves of the genius and hard toil of others without making them any return, the cost of printing and paper in those countries is nearly one-half less than in England.

On the other hand, the pirated editions, owing to the hurried manner in which they are got up (being generally printed within twenty-four hours of the receipt of the English edition), and in order to save the (in England necessary) expense of common revision, are full of the grossest blunders, which must often interfere with the correct understanding of the work.

The series of works designed to appear in Mr. Murray's "Colonial and Home Library" will be selected for their acknowledged merit, and will be exclusively such as are calculated to please the most extensive circles of readers. They will be printed most carefully, in a superior style, and on good paper.

THE GARLAND.

UNDER this title, Messrs Armour & Ramsay have recently published an admirable selection of songs, the object of which is to supply to the musical taste of "the million," the place of the trashy collections with which the Province has hitherto been inundated. The songs in the "Garland" are all of the very best, being taken from the works of Moore, Byron, Scott, Burns, Lever, Dibdin, and all the eminent song writers of the age. We are well pleased to find among them several of thoroughly Canadian origin—a few of Mrs. Moody's, and others which have already appeared in the pages of our own magazine. Altogether, the collection is the best we have seen, and deserves to be universally patronized by the admirers of music, "wedded to immortal verse."

THE PROMPTER.

We have been favored with a glance at some of the sheets of a book, now in press, which is intended to be published in a few weeks, under this title. It is meant, chiefly, for the use of teachers, to whom it affords many useful hints, the fruits of the experience and observation of the author.

This book has been submitted to the inspection of many of our most respectable teachers, who have unanimously declared themselves well pleased with the design, and the manner in which it has been carried out, and have recommended its general adoption. It may be presumed, therefore, that the book is well worthy of the support which is so modestly asked for it by the author.

His Excellency the Governor General, with the liberality which has always characterised his patronage of literature, has, we are pleased to learn, subscribed for a number of copies; and his example has been followed by many of the most distinguished inhabitants of the Province.

* By a special arrangement with Mr. Murray, Messrs. Armour & Ramsay are enabled to sell these books at 2s. 6d. currency for each part, although the publishing price in London is half a crown.