

SERIALS.

The *Art Journal* is to have a rival in *The Portfolio*, a new artistic periodical, to be published monthly. The intention of this new serial is to supply at a cheap rate works of art of various kinds, but always such as are likely to interest a cultivated public, and to accompany them with literature by writers of approved ability.

The *Graphic*, the new illustrated weekly paper, improves in its later issues. The January numbers contain some superior engravings, but the periodical seems more in the interest of the fine arts than as an illustrator of news and current events. The paper occupies a sphere of its own, and apart from *The Illustrated London News*, which it was intended to rival, we believe.

The fourth number of *The Academy*, Mr. Murray's new literary review, is to hand. It is stated that over 20,000 of the first number were sold in England, and this is not surprising, considering the high character of the publication. *The Academy* has taken its position at once as a record of literature, learning, science and art, indispensable to professional men and men of culture. The number before us is very varied and interesting in its articles, which are written by some of the most notable scholars and savants of the day.

Oxford University is to have a *Gazette*, published by authority, and designed to record the proceedings of that body, and to publish the notices necessary for the information of its members and the public.

Our old and revered friend, *The Athenæum*, comes to us with the new year in a new dress. The type is larger, and it is larger in form. The size now at the price of three-pence sterling per weekly number is exactly double of that of its original issue in 1829, at the price of eight-pence sterling. Though over forty years in existence, its labours in the "gay science"—*literary criticism*—keep it ever young.

CANADIAN PUBLICATIONS AND NATIVE INTELLIGENCE.

THE REV. DR. ORMISTON of Hamilton, we learn, is having considerable pressure brought to bear upon him to permit the publication of his lectures upon Councils, ancient and modern, which he is now preparing for his pastoral work. His sketches of the Papal, Apostolical and Œcumenical Councils, while being apropos at the present time, we feel sure will be thoroughly interesting, and, coming from so learned a divine, and so vigorous and enthusiastic a worker, will be of much service to the cause of the Church. We should be glad, also, if the reverend gentleman

would prepare for press a volume of his sermons, which are well known to be characterized by much thought, freshness and beauty. Will the trade keep at him?

DR. HOW, of Halifax, has recently published an important work on the mineralogy of Nova Scotia, being the substance of a report to the Provincial Government.

DR. DAWSON, of Magill College, Montreal, the eminent naturalist and geologist, has just issued, by his publishers, Messrs. Dawson Brothers, a handbook of Zoology, with examples from Canadian species, recent and fossil. This manual, which is very creditably got up, will be found of much value to the student of natural history, illustrated as it is by reference to the various native species. We hope to notice this work more fully in our next number.

The appearance of the current numbers, which have just been received by us, of "*Stewart's Quarterly Magazine*" (Saint John, N. B.: H. Chubb & Co.) and the "*New Dominion Monthly*" (Montreal: Jno. Deugal & Son) reminds us that Ontario has at the present time no literary magazine. With the extensive field the Province affords for the support of a *live* monthly, it is not creditable to it that the Provinces to the East should thus have the start of us. "*The New Dominion*" maintains its high reputation as an interesting and attractive magazine, while "*Stewart's Quarterly*" comes to us, as usual, freighted with good things. The articles in the latter are all original, and every one of the twenty contributions in the number before us is above the average of native serial articles, and exceedingly readable.

THE CANADIAN DOMINION DIRECTORY, we are glad to announce, is to be gone on with, and we are promised its publication, together with the six separate Provincial directories—parts of the whole work—in October next. We need hardly say that it is to the enterprise, industry, and patriotism of Mr. Lovell, of Montreal, the country will be indebted for this great work, the production of which will cost the publisher some \$75,000. The compilation of a work of this magnitude and importance would be creditable to the intelligence and fore-thought of a government, while it would somewhat tax its resources to produce; and it reflects all the more credit on the publisher that he almost single-handed undertakes this vast work. Besides giving the information of a directory, the work is to be made a perfect cyclopaedia, embracing the statistics and other valuable details in relation to the governments, municipalities, commerce and trade, education, the professions, &c., &c., of the country. We wish the spirited publisher a most hearty success in his undertaking, which cannot but prove of the highest national importance.