

contest, which will, in all likelihood, terminate in the annexation of another immense district to our over-grown Indian Empire. We might go on enumerating; but it is time that we drew to a close. Steam has had its successes and its disasters: the 'Amazon,' the 'Henry Clay,' the 'Reindeer,' the 'Atlantic'—their names tell their sad history.

America has looked with a longing eye to Cuba and the far distant Islands of Japan. The issue belongs to the future—and we shall not endeavour to divine it. The past year has been one of great vitality. The present is one of great promise—in which every one of us, however humble, has to do his part. We trust that our little Province will enjoy her due share of this new life; and that amidst the din of coming railways, and the commotions of party strife, our efforts to soothe the one, and allay the other, by carrying the mind occasionally far away from both, will not be without their use, to the social and intellectual well-being of our fellow Colonists. With this hope we launch our little bark upon a second voyage.

LITERATURE OF SLAVERY.*

WHILE acknowledging the excellence and utility of the many discoveries and applications of science in this our age of progress, and looking upon them all as so many aids in the plan of ameliorating and exalting our common condition and character, we are still free to admit that the *pen* is the great agent of moral improvement; which, when swayed aright, can work more powerfully for good than any other means of human invention. There are a thousand objects which only its influence can touch; and more important changes have resulted from its endeavours than any attempt of ours could record.

The literature of the nineteenth century has exercised a most beneficial influence upon the world, and proved that the minds of modern days are working more successfully for the right than those of any previous age.

To assert the rights of almost every class of humanity, no matter how trampled upon or degraded, a band of energetic writers have come forward forcing their claims upon the sympathy of their kind, and obtaining redress by the very force of style in which their statements and arguments were conveyed. Long did the factory children of England endure the heaviest burdens of toil and suffering, often yielding up their young lives to the tyranny of their employers, without one word raised in their behalf, until the lamented

* "Uncle Tom's Cabin: or Life among the Lowly." By MRS. HARRIET B. STOWE. Boston: JOHN P. JEWETT & Co.

"The Cabin and the Parlour: or Slaves and Masters." By J. THORNTON RANDOLPH. Philadelphia: T. B. PETERSON.