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THE CLOSE OF THE VOLUME.

ANOTHER volume of the GARLAND is completed: a circumstance which furnishes us with an opportunity of troubling our readers about ourselves. The subject is one we are not anxious to thrust before them; but on the present occasion there seems to be some necessity for it.

Some complaints have reached us—few, however, we are glad to say—because there has not been an engraving in each number of the volume. We believe that even among the complainants, none have been as much annoyed about the want of them, as ourselves; for although we did not promise that every number should have a plate, we soon found that such an expectation was indulged, and we were very sorry to be occasionally compelled to disappoint an expectation we had, however innocently, been the means of raising. No one can be half as anxious as we are, to see the GARLAND, in every department, outshine every rival, in every country; for, being a child of our own, we have great delight in seeing it elegantly attired. But in this respect, we have had difficulties which few can dream of, to encounter—and, we are sorry to say, we have not yet altogether surmounted them. Engravings cannot be obtained, as yet, except from a great distance, and we have sometimes been compelled to wait until customers nearer at hand were served; and we dare not say that such will not still occasionally be the case, until the GARLAND is rich enough properly to remunerate a first-rate artist, who may take up his residence among us, and devote himself to the advancement of the Art in the Colony. This is a consummation we most devoutly wish for; and if the public will individually lend us a little assistance, we will take care that there is no time lost in arriving at it. We do hope that before long even the most exacting will have nothing of which they can reasonably complain.

We say boldly, because we say truly—and there are many who can attest the fact—that the GARLAND was commenced, and has hitherto been conducted, without any hope or expectation of making it a money-speculation. We schooled ourselves to be well satisfied if there was nothing lost by it but our own labour—and we have had need of the lesson. We cannot well afford to expend more upon it than it is expected to produce; but all its own resources we have been, and are, quite willing to apply freely and with-

out scruple, to develop the resources of the country, literary and artist-ical. Nothing within our own limited means and power, has ever been either withheld or grudging.

As far as we are personally concerned, we would decidedly prefer seeing it supported for its literary merit, rather than for any other attraction it may possess; and we believe that nine-tenths of those who pay its trifling subscription price, do so because they are satisfied that they have in its reading matter ample value for the outlay—in which we certainly coincide with them. But if they desire to see the Canadian Magazine equal in every point of view to the most elegant periodical of the day, it is very easy for them to have the laudable longing gratified. Let each one induce one or two valued friends to do as he is doing—become subscribers to the work—and we on our part, will do our endeavour to make the GARLAND, as a monthly magazine, better than the best.

In the progress of the GARLAND we have had considerable pride. Begun under the most apparently threatening circumstances, and with several well directed but unsuccessful efforts of a similar nature, staring us in the face, we felt that we could not hope to succeed without a struggle. But, aided by a host of talent, of the existence of which we scarcely dreamed, we saw the obstacles which frowned before us, charmed out of our path. A review of the contents of the GARLAND for the last five years, will convince every reader that there is in the Province no lack of literary ability—that we are, in fact, as well supplied with the materials for a magazine, as any competitor in the same field, on this continent; and, on the reasonable principle that domestic produce is to be encouraged and protected, we have almost a right to claim the support of the Canadian public, in our attempt to cherish a literary spirit in the country.

Before concluding, we very respectfully thank, and we do it cordially and sincerely, the many friends who have thus far supported the GARLAND. We can safely assure them that the efforts hitherto made to please shall not be relaxed; but, on the contrary, that they shall, if possible, be increased, until the friends of literature see “nothing to envy” in any publication of the kind in America.