

timents and opinions of writers upon all these subjects. And being open to the admission of every new discovery and free to a discussion of its merits, it may be justly stated in an age where periodical publications abound no new theory is propagated without investigation, no new position is advanced without mature deliberation and every step in the progress of science is minutely criticised and its truth or falacy carefully established before it is assumed by the public.

Such publications diffuse a spirit for reading and research. Mankind *en masse* are too much engaged either in business or pleasure to spend much time in deep and abstruse investigations. Hence it happens when large volumes are written on any one subject they find but few readers unless such as have a turn for studying the matter of which the author treats. With periodical writings the reverse is the case. The plurality of subjects they embrace, allow of their only touching slightly upon each.—The variety of discussions they contain render them attractive for all; at the same time their size is not so enlarged as to deter a superficial reader from giving them a perusal. Every man will read with avidity an account of an improvement in the Steam Engine; but few who are advanced in life will go through the study of pneumatics and other branches of mechanical philosophy on which that improvement is made. It is from these circumstances that the patronage such publications have met with in any country has been considered as a pretty sure criterion of the estimation in which it holds literature, and the degree of civilization to which it has reached. And if we judge of Canada by this test, we feel a high gratification in stating that from the encreasing attention our labours daily receive both from readers and contributors, this Colony will soon rank for the encouragement of periodical publications as high as any part of the favoured empire to which it belongs.

To our obliging correspondents we again offer our sincere thanks, and have only to add,

“*Hic patet ingeniis campus, certusque merenti*”