

The Presbyterian Record.

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The close of 1892. This issue completes the RECORD for 1892. Thanks, on behalf of the church at large, to all who, at no little inconvenience, and in some cases loss, have kindly distributed it. Such distribution is church work. *The RECORD is supplied in parcels to congregations at the very low rate of 25 cents, just enough to cover all expenses, and congregations should see to it that the work of the agent who thus labors for them in its distribution, is made light, by their prompt subscription and payment, where the subscription plan is in use. Please send renewals immediately. Will any who wish it stopped kindly give notice at once. Where no notice is received, it will be understood as a desire for continuance.

Will you, good friends, please increase the circulation of the RECORD, and I will do what I can to improve its quality.

To the many whom it may concern. Permit me, in this the last issue for this year, to bring before you two points in connection with the RECORD, viz:—Why it should be in every home, and, the best way of placing it there.

I. *Why the RECORD should be in every Presbyterian family in the Dominion.*

1. It is, with the exception of *The Children's Record*, the only periodical published by our church, for the whole church; and, whatever other papers they may take, every family, as a part of that church, should receive it and have a share in whatever good it can give.

2. In many families there is little religious reading; the RECORD devotes part of its space to meeting this want, by giving a few pages of the best select reading that it can get, bearing upon the main doctrines and principles and duties of the gospel, and must in this way be an agency for good wherever it goes.

3. It keeps the Home and Foreign work of our church as fully as possible before its readers, and thus aids in sustaining and deepening an interest in that work.

The result of all such added interest must be gain, in every way, to the individual, to the congregation, and to the church at large.

II. *The best way of placing the RECORD in every family.*

There are but two ways, either by each family subscribing for it, or by the congregation taking a sufficient number to give one to each family.

1. The subscription plan.

The disadvantages of this method are, first, that it involves an amount of work each year in getting subscribers, and collecting "quarters" which few are willing to undertake, and, secondly, seldom more than half the congregation take it, often not one fourth, while those who do not subscribe, are the ones that need it most.

2. The congregation taking it for each family, and paying for it, either out of the ordinary church funds, or by taking a collection at the beginning of the year, and adding to it, if need be, from the church funds.

The advantages of this plan so are, first, that it saves all the work of getting subscribers from year to year, and the collecting of 25 cent subscriptions which is a long and weary task. Secondly, it costs no more to those who now subscribe. They save their subscription and pay 25 cents more into the fund to make up the amount required, while many would gladly give a little more that all might receive the benefit. Thirdly, the RECORD, by this plan, is, with little trouble and at small cost, placed in every family. Those get it who most need it. Careless ones are more or less interested, and themselves, the congregation and the church profit thereby.

There are few ways in which so much good could be done, at so small an expenditure of money and effort, as by putting the RECORD into every family that does not take it. From a merely financial standpoint it would pay many a congregation to do so. But the great benefit would be the good that this kind of Home Mission work would do among the less interested half. Here is a field of work from which the subscription plan practically excludes it, while if taken by the congregation for every family, it has an open door to a large field of usefulness. Many congregations have adopted this method. Will not you, brethren, who have not done so, try it for the coming year.