

Editorial.

The Canadian Independent.

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER, 1874.

OUR EDITORIAL BOW.

With the present issue of the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT, the recent arrangements in regard to its editorial management, and the Home Secretaryship of the Missionary Society, take effect. The new editor gratefully acknowledges the kindly greetings which come to him from many quarters, as he again assumes charge of the Magazine, and many warm expressions of interest and hopefulness in the "new departure" respecting our Missionary work. His prayer is, as his effort shall be, that he may realize for the Body that has called him to his new and responsible position all their most sanguine expectations in regard to it.

It has not been easy for him to tear himself away from a place and people endeared to himself and family by many pleasant recollections. A pastorate of nearly twenty-two years could not fail to attach him very strongly to both the Church and the community, and to make him feel deeply the wrench of separation. It is like plucking a tree up by its roots. He has had, moreover, very substantial evidence that the pain at parting was not all on one side. The church is almost wholly a new organization since he went to Brantford, a student fresh from College, to take charge of it. Not a dozen of the members from whom he received the invitation to settle among them, now

remain. Most of them have "entered into rest," and their children, or strangers, fill their places in the sanctuary and the Sabbath-school. Of a large proportion of the present membership, he might say, as Paul did to the Corinthians, "Though ye have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet have ye not many fathers; for in Christ Jesus, I have begotten you through the Gospel." Such a relationship is a very tender and a very sacred one. The same may be said of the pastoral relationship generally. The scenes of trial and bereavement, on the one hand, and of joy and gladness, on the other, through which they have passed together, crowd thick upon his memory when he thinks of saying "Farewell!" and almost forbid the word. But the claims of Christ, and of the denomination, are superior to those of the local church, and above all personal considerations; and hearing the voice of God in the voice of his brethren, he has felt it to be duty to accede to their wish, and separate himself for the work to which they have called him. May he bespeak for the congregation which he has left, as well as for himself, in his new responsibilities, a large interest in the prayers of the Canadian Churches!

SHALL IT SUCCEED?

We have seldom witnessed greater unanimity, not to say enthusiasm, in a quiet way, in the inauguration of any new denominational enterprise, than was manifested in the recent Annual Meeting