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"IF I FORGET TREE, O JERUSALEM! LET MY RIGHT HAND FORGET ITS CUNNING."—Ps. 137: 5.

TO OUR READERS.

WE have now reached the close of another year in the history of the Church, and the end of another volume of the *Record*. It has always been our endeavour to make our Church periodical as interesting and as profitable as possible to our readers. The fact has never been lost sight of that we are the servants of the Church, endeavouring at all times to advance the interests of our beloved Zion, "by lengthening her cords and strengthening her stakes"; and, by keeping her interests before the minds of our people, to advance the glory of the Great Head of the Church. In matters under discussion in the Church Courts, we avoided taking any particular or party stand, and at all times our pages have been open for the free and full discussion of ecclesiastical affairs by those interested in the Church's welfare. Till the Church decides, the *Record* should have no opinion. It has been said that our periodical is wanting in character. If so, it is owing to what is mentioned above, and we make bold to think, that in taking such a stand, we are advancing the best interests and most enlarged usefulness of the *Record*. We are a *Record*, not an *Advocate*. We leave to our Church Courts the *discussion* of subjects; and, when discussed and passed, we promise in the future, as in the past, our full and hearty endeavour to maintain, in a healthy and workable condition, all her measures.

It is true the *Record* has not been as interesting as it might have been. The reason is very easily given. It is impossible for the Editor or for the Committee to do the work: that is, there is work necessary for our welfare which must be done in the different localities within our Synodical bounds. It is only by reaching thus to the outposts of the Church that Church news can appear in our pages. As already stated, this cannot be done by the Editor; and unless done by ministers and others interested in the Church in certain localities, it must of necessity remain undone. Little items of news from the various Presbyteries appearing in each issue would add immensely to the value of the *Record*. We cannot understand why these should not be forwarded regularly; but the fact is, they *are not*. We made arrangements, personally, and with the sanction of Presbyteries where such was attainable, at last meeting of Synod, to carry out some such arrangement, and why we have seen nothing more from