

THE MAGAZINE.

According to the good hand of our God upon us, we have been enabled to bring the labours of another year to a close. Let our hearts expand with devout gratitude to the giver of all good for the forbearance and tender mercy he has been graciously pleased to exercise, and let us supplicate his blessing on our endeavours for the advancement of His glory and the good of His Church, imploring at the same time his forgiveness of all our omissions and failings, and faults. Enter not into judgment with thy servant, for in thy sight shall no man living be justified.

To our readers and friends generally, especially to our contributors, we cordially and respectfully offer our best thanks, and hope that the relation in which we stand to one another will be cheerfully and happily sustained on both sides. It is highly satisfactory to be able to state, that, in a financial point of view, notwithstanding the badness of the times, the past year has been our most successful. The Committee who kindly undertook the publication, have the goodness to continue rendering their invaluable services, and we can, in these circumstances, find no excuse for withdrawing from the editorship. It would on many accounts, however, be exceedingly desirable that the number of our subscribers were increased, and that those who subscribe would promptly make payment, so that a considerable debt incurred in former years may be cleared off. There are a number to whom it can surely afford little pleasure to reflect, that they have been receiving the Magazine for four or five years without paying one farthing.

To such a denomination as ours, a medium of communication among the different parts seems almost necessary, and at present it is especially so. We refer both to the effort we are called to make for self-sustentation, and to our interesting position as regards Union with our Brethren of the Presbyterian Church of Canada. These two matters, besides being highly important in themselves, have obviously a considerable relation to one another, which renders them doubly worthy of our pursuit; and the pages of the Magazine will be freely devoted to both objects.

To Union we have been unjustly and, we almost fear, maliciously represented as unfavorable. Of some petulant and unmannerly remarks and insinuations in another journal we have disdained to take notice. As we have always declared, we are anxious for a Union on sound principle, and one which may be reasonably expected to be attended with good feeling and cordial co-operation. One of an opposite sort we regard as worse than none. Into a narrow, cribbed, sectarian Church, or one at the door of which we must profess what we do not believe, we hope we shall never enter. It is surely needless to add, that for the sentiments of our correspondents, on this or any other subject, we are not responsible. We are not only professedly, but practically, in favour of free discussion.

We are glad that the number of our contributors has extended, and we earnestly invite a continuation of their highly appreciated labours. It would oblige us if every one would give a title to his paper. Let him be sure that if he cannot find a title, he wants also a subject. Ecclesiastical Notices sent in reasonable time are always highly acceptable.

And now, having reached almost the termination of another year, let us engage in those exercises and cultivate those feelings of a solemn and religious nature, to which a consideration of the lapse of time naturally invites us; and may God cause goodness and mercy to follow us all our days, and bring us at last unto Himself in Heaven.