

CIRCULAR TO MINISTERS.

ANNAN, ONT., *March 4th, 1876.*

REV. DEAR SIR :—Along with this circular, we take the liberty of sending you a copy of the CANADA CHRISTIAN MONTHLY : have the kindness to examine the Magazine. It is the successor of *Good News*, which ceased on account of the sudden death of its editor and publisher, the Rev. Mr. Kennedy ; for two years and a half the publication was conducted in behalf of Mr. Kennedy's family. It was, at the end of that period decided, that it would be unwise to continue the publication longer on that footing, as there was a likelihood that instead of bringing in any help to Mrs. Kennedy, it would involve its publishers in loss. We, the undersigned, were readers of the CHRISTIAN MONTHLY all along, and felt sorry to see such a publication cease. The like of it is needed very much in country districts, and we know from our own personal knowledge that its circulation was doing good. Its mission seemed similar to the *Christian Treasury* in its older days, or the *British Messenger*. Monthlies that deal with Sin, Salvation, the Saviour, with Ruin, Redemption, Regeneration. Such magazines are a great aid to the pulpit in the families of the church, in interesting young and old in spiritual things, and fostering a taste for healthy literature, and love for the Word of the living God. To keep up the CHRISTIAN MONTHLY, extend its circulation, and endeavor if possible to make it a permanent institution in Canada, we have formed ourselves into a provisional company, willing to give some time and money to this work ; and without any object of profit, even though the work should succeed beyond running expenses, when the profits will be used in improving the character of the Magazine. The Rev. Mr. Cameron, of Chatsworth, who has full control as Editor, also continues to give his services for nothing. In these circumstances, we have courage to appeal to all Ministers of the Gospel in Canada, as well to the Christian people generally, to whom this comes, to interest themselves in the publication, to speak a kind word in regard to it to their people, to give encouragement to the young men we are sending out as colporteurs and canvassers, and to send sermons and other contributions occasionally. The day has come when Christians must make a greater use of the press, not simply indirectly in filling with the *leaven* of Christian principles all departments of literature, but in the work of using it *directly* as an instrument to exalt Christ, his offices, his life, his death, and to keep ever before people his ascension, and his coming to judgment. We are fully aware of the excellent publications that come to us from other countries, and of the weekly newspapers and monthly records of the different churches. but over and above these, we want Canadian periodicals, and periodicals especially that deal directly and throughout with Christian doctrine, Christian work and Christian life in a way that will excite no controversy, and be level to the capacities of the common people, the working men of our towns and villages, and the settlers in our backwoods. Let us therefore, Christian friends, have your sympathy, prayers, and active help in this matter. The price of the MONTHLY is put so low that it will require a large circulation, say 4000, to pay expenses and provide for losses. It is 32 pages per month that are commonly given in Canada for one dollar, whereas the CHRISTIAN MONTHLY gives 48 pages, making a volume at the end of the year of 576 pages of matter, closely packed, and on good paper. We propose, however, to give the rest of 1876—nine months—to all Ministers of the Gospel in the Dominion, for fifty cents, free of postage. The publishing department is in the hands of JAMES BAIN & SON, TORONTO, to whom all subscriptions should be sent.

DAVID ROSS, WM. P. TELFORD, JAMES P. TELFORD.