

because of long standing arrears, and a seeming impossibility to reach these friends, or to reduce an aggregate of \$178, owing by them. The net increase was, 125 for Vol. XIV. and six in advance for Vol. XV. The receipts on account of arrears due for back volumes, amounted to \$222 26; for the volume now completed (XIV.) \$596 13; for volume XV. and XVI. \$56 92; from the Missionary Society, \$30; from the Union, \$10, for services rendered; for the Premium Fund, advertisements and free list, \$92 50: showing a total of receipts, including a balance of \$52 29, from last year, of \$1,060 10. The whole of this sum has been expended, and still a balance to the extent of \$307, remains owing by the Publishing Company. To meet these claims, however, there is a balance of unpaid subscriptions, and other assets, to the value of \$335 25, without allowing anything for the \$178 written off as "bad," some of which will, in all probability, be realized.

It will thus be seen that the *Independent* is just paying its way. A larger subscription list, and a little more promptness on the part of subscribers in remitting their subscriptions, would greatly facilitate the enterprise, and enable the company still further to improve the Magazine.

As will be seen by reference to the report of the proceedings of the Union, the Proprietors have again had before them the question of the advisableness of establishing a Weekly Newspaper in lieu of the Magazine. The proposal was looked at carefully all round, and a strong desire expressed by several members of the company to make the attempt. The general feeling, however, was decidedly in favour of letting well alone. The low price of the Magazine as compared with that at which a weekly paper could be furnished, its more suitable form for preservation, its freedom from anything that would be improper for Sunday reading, and lastly, the more solid and instructive character of its contents, the most valuable of which would often be considered altogether too "heavy" for newspaper reading, were felt to be irresistible arguments in favour of the continuance of it in its present form.

This view was generally concurred in by the members of the Union, and the point having now been definitely decided, it is hoped that the churches and their pastors will make a vigorous effort to increase its circulation. Every subscriber has a direct interest in adding to the subscription list, apart from the consideration of the good that may be done by the introduction of the Magazine into families where, perhaps, no other religious periodical is taken. A good canvasser, therefore, ought to be appointed by every church in the Dominion, to undertake this special work, and if it be earnestly and faithfully done, we shall not be surprised to see our circulation increased fifty per cent. during the year. The difficulty has been that the ministers have felt unwilling to put themselves under what might be regarded as a personal obligation to their people by asking them to subscribe for the *Independent*, and that nobody else has felt it to be *his or her business* to do it, and thus the matter has been to a large extent neglected. Our advice is therefore,—appoint some suitable person to this special charge,—do it quickly,—and although the time named in the premium list has expired, we are sure the Proprietors will not object to its extension for another month, as an inducement to any one who may be appointed to canvass for us.

The following letter from one who "has done what he could" will show what even a child may do:—

M. A. CHRISTIE,

Ottawa, May 23rd. 1868.

Dear Sir,—Having read in my father's *Independent* of your offer of premiums to those who obtained new subscribers to it, I thought I would try, although I am young, being only nine years old, and I have got five subscribers, and you