

The Monthly Record.

JANUARY, 1880.

All thoughtful people will wish that the coming year may be better than the past,—better as regards secular matters as well as spiritual. We are in an especial manner admonished by the silent lapse of time that our period of probation here is fast hastening to a close. During the past year we have been called upon frequently to lament the removal from amongst us by death of many of our most pious and God-fearing fellow christians. We may well ask ourselves are we using our advantages and numerous opportunities. The sainted dead who have now entered upon their rest had the same means of grace with ourselves. Are we using them as they did. Do we seek to amend what is amiss in our character or conduct? Are we cultivating the habit of serious reflection as to our spiritual condition,—of earnest prayer to the Almighty Disposer of events that we may profit by the admonition He bestows upon us day by day. Are we diligent in the discharge of our religious duties? When we review our past lives is the retrospect becoming less painful to us. Are we becoming more faithful to the dictates of our conscience, and more earnest in prayer for the grace of God. We should need his grace even if we were innocent; how much more then do we need it, seeing that we are verily guilty.

Such thoughts as these will arise in the minds of serious disposed Christian people as they review the past and look forward to the future. If we suffer such admonitions to have their due effect upon us during the coming year, then we may confidently hope that for us the end thereof will be better than the beginning.

FOR some time it has been felt by many of the members of Presbytery that it would be more convenient in some respects if the Presbytery were divided into two,—the one to meet in Pictou, the other in New Glasgow. We understand that at last meeting of Presbytery this arrangement was carried into effect. It is probable that a Synod will be held sometime next summer at which we trust our fellow churchmen in P. E. Island will be represented. Our position as a church would be much strengthened by their co-operation. We could then enter with hopefulness upon the matter of the Foreign Mission, at work which many of our readers are anxious to see our church enter upon with zeal.

THE RECORD.—A few of our readers are still in arrears for 1879. Had we received the amount due, the RECORD would now have been free from debt. Should this notice fall under the eye of any of our readers who has neglected to pay his subscription for the past year, we trust that such one will atone for his neglect and recover his lost happiness and peace of mind by remitting at once. Last month we caused several copies of the November and December RECORD to be forwarded to leading Kirkmen in P. E. Island in order to introduce it to their notice and if possible to secure their support. Our circulation in 1880 is expected to be largely increased in several localities and we expect to issue three or four hundred copies more than last year. We tender our hearty thanks to all our agents for their assistance and to our readers one and all we wish A Happy New Year.

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