

The Monthly Record.

DECEMBER, 1877.

GENTLE READER:—This number completes the twenty-third volume of THE MONTHLY RECORD. To all who befriended and supported the publication during the past year, either by original contributions or selections, or otherwise, we tender our best thanks.

Our desire has been to furnish, in an agreeable form, matter that would instruct, interest and improve all classes to whom we were allowed access, and we are not without hope that, in some measure, our object has been gained.

We have endeavored to avoid giving offence to any, but as we dared to differ in our opinions on some matters of importance, we can hardly venture to hope that we have not, inadvertently, set down our heel on some weak friend or brother's toe.

If we seemed partial in the views we held, or the information we furnished, it will be remembered that we have not set out as *Independent* in Church matters, but as the only representative of the Church of Scotland in the Maritime Provinces; as the only exponent of her church polity. We will therefore hope to be pardoned, if we have not put on *their spectacles* to read the sayings and doings of other Churches.

We have endeavored to keep our readers posted in matters concerning own and other Churches, at home and abroad, and to keep the *dust out of their eyes*, when appearances were delusive. We did not fail to bring under the notice of our readers the most important subjects that engrossed the public mind during the past year—in fine, we have endeavored to play our little part in the history of the

Maritime Provinces, in a candid, impartial manner.

We are glad to be able to state that the RECORD paid its own expenses last year; and we hope to be able to make a similar statement for this year.

We hope (D.V.,) to continue our round of monthly visitation, prepared alike for the warm and friendly welcome which cheers us on, and the cold indifference which barely tolerates our presence. We thank Agents and contributors alike, for past favors and assistance, and respectfully and urgently solicit a continuance of the same.

Agents will confer a very great favor by having their lists forwarded by the first of January, 1878, and we promise on our part to forward, monthly, to subscribers, a RECORD of Church news, as interesting as the diversified talent of our Church in the Maritime Province can supply.

ROGER'S HILL.—On Thanksgiving day the congregation of Roger's Hill contributed \$11.18 for Home Mission purposes in Cape Breton.

WEST BRANCH, E. R.—This congregation is making praiseworthy efforts to wipe off the manse debt, and have about \$500 collected for the purpose.

GAIRLOCH.—This congregation, we are happy to learn, contributed over \$20.00 for benevolent purposes on Thanksgiving Day; they also donated about a cwt. of cheese to their worthy pastor, the Rev. D. McKay.

WE beg to remind Congregations that the first instalment of the Supplementing Fund is expected to be in the hands of the Hon. James Fraser, Treasurer, New Glasgow, on or before the 31st of Dec'r. It is confidently hoped that every congregation will be up to the mark in the amount of their collections, and on time in handing it in.