

The Presbyterian;

A MISSIONARY AND RELIGIOUS RECORD



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

CONDUCTED BY A COMMITTEE OF THE LAY ASSOCIATION.

CONTENTS.

THE PRESBYTERIAN.	PAGE	CHURCH OF SCOTLAND'S MISSIONS.	PAGE	HISTORY OF PRESBYTERIANISM,	PAGE
Circulation of the Presbyterian,.....	17	Appointment of Jewish Missionary,.....	20	Plato,.....	24
Erratum,.....	17	India Mission,.....	20	Protestantism and Religious Education,	26
Home Missionary Association, Kingston,	17	Jewish Females, Ladies' Association for		EXTRACT.	
CHURCH IN CANADA.		the education of.....	20	Moravian Missions,.....	27
Bursaries of the Lay Association,.....	18	Jewish Mission, Karlsruhe, ...	21	POETRY.	
Induction at Belleville,.....	18	Jewish Mission, London,.....	22	The Happy Land,.....	28
Presbytery of Hamilton,.....	18	CORRESPONDENCE.		Thou, God, Seest Me,.....	28
St. Andrew's Church, Montreal,.....	18	Agitation of the Popish Question in Brit-		REVIEW,.....	28
CHURCH IN THE LOWER PROVINCES.		ain,.....	22	SELECTIONS,.....	28
Halifax Lay Association,.....	18	Development of Infidelity,.....	23	RELIGIOUS ANNIVERSARIES,.....	31
St. Andrew's Church Sabbath School,					
Halifax,.....	20				

No. 2, February, 1851.

VOLUME IV.

Price 2s. 6d. per annum.

The Presbyterian.

OUR CIRCULATION.

We have been much struck with the truth and justice of the ensuing remarks, which, though not designed for publication, we take the liberty of extracting from a recent encouraging letter received by us from an esteemed Minister of our Church, and a warm friend of this publication.

"You seem to hint in the last number that the profits of *The Presbyterian* do not equal the expenses, and that the Lay Association has still to devote a portion of its Funds to making up the deficiency. This is much to be regretted, and there is no just cause for it. If *The Presbyterian* were properly recommended by our Ministers to their people, and if a business-like method of collecting subscriptions were followed, it might easily be made self-supporting.

"There is just one objection made to it—its want of local news. Of course you are not to blame for this. You cannot manufacture intelligence. The fault rests with those who are in possession of important and gratifying facts bearing on the concerns of our Church, and neglect to make them known to you. Perhaps some have neglected to do so through fear that their style was not of that attractive and popular kind which suits such a publication as *The Presbyterian*; but I am convinced that such communications, although not very well written, will be read with more avidity, and are in fact more appropriate than a good part of the articles (excellent of their kind), which the various numbers usually contain." The justice of these remarks, which reached us

very opportunely, is undeniable. Unless the Ministers of our Church take an active interest in furthering the circulation of *The Presbyterian*, recommending it to their people, and collecting or employing some one to collect the subscriptions, it never will become self-supporting.

We put it to them broadly, whether, if such a paper is necessary (and they must admit that it is), they are not bound to give it a hearty support. Many of our Clergy have energetically furthered its interests; but, we regret to say, there are some exceptions. We are aware that it is a difficult matter to collect the subscriptions from the often widely scattered subscribers; but the smallness of each individual amount prevents our employing collectors, and obliges us to trust to the disinterested exertions of the friends of the publication.

Perhaps in some instances the Ministers might engage a party to collect the subscriptions, receiving for his trouble a *gratis* copy, or a small commission on the amount collected; and they are hereby empowered to make such an arrangement if they deem it desirable. Our correspondent has struck another nail on the head, when, in allusion to the scarcity of local intelligence, which our Journal often contains, he says:—"You cannot manufacture intelligence;" we have again and again urged upon the attention of our readers the duty of supplying us with local intelligence; but we cannot make bricks without straw, and we cannot make our Journal a comprehensive Record of the efforts of our Church, unless we receive external assistance.

We appeal to the Ministers of our Church; we appeal to the members of our Church for further support. A little in-

dividual exertion, a little timely attention to the collection of subscriptions would relieve the Lay Association from any disbursements for the publication of *The Presbyterian*, and would enable it to devote its funds to other purposes. We trust our remarks will be received with attention, and may bear some fruit, because in making them we have been actuated by a sincere desire to promote the efficiency of a paper, which has come to be regarded, and which is in fact, the only organ of our church in this Province.

ERRATUM.

We regret much that several typographical errors crept into the Treasurer's Report of the Funds of the Lay Association, which appeared in the last Number. We owe this reparation to that officer, though we do not think it probable that many of our readers were at the pains to discover the error by testing the accuracy of the figures, yet, as to our knowledge one man of figures did so, and kindly pointed out the errors, we deem it right to say that they occurred in going through the office, and were overlooked in the proof-reading.

It gives us much pleasure to observe, that, while the adherents to our venerable Church abroad are naturally most desirous that their appeals to the mother country for spiritual help, and for an increased supply of labourers, should meet with a response, they are also exhibiting most cheering and satisfactory evidence that a missionary spirit exists among themselves. We see it stated, in the September number of the *Presbyterian*, that the ladies connected with the congregation of the Rev. Dr. Machar, Kingston, have instituted a Home Missionary Association.—*Home and Foreign Record.*