

Editorial.

AN ACT OF JUSTICE.

In the last number that was issued of *GOOD NEWS*, it was the sad duty of the writer of these lines to announce to its circle of four or five thousand readers, that its editor and publisher, the Rev. Robert Kennedy, was arrested in his work and called suddenly to enter the Master's presence. A very useful life came then to its close; and a very important work, albeit a quiet one, was then suddenly and sadly stopped.

It is about seventeen years since Mr. Kennedy first landed in Canada, with the object of giving his time to the service of Christ. He came here from the West Indies—Antigua—where he was engaged in commercial pursuits, but where he found one pearl of great price, and went and sold all that he had and bought it. His first intention of entering the ministry and of settling down in some one spot to the work of the pastorate, he abandoned, thinking he could be more useful travelling from place to place, doing the work of an evangelist. To the work of preaching he conjoined the work of publishing and circulating religious literature. Occupied as he was himself in constantly travelling he could not devote much time to original writing, neither could he afford to pay others to write for him. What contributions he received was a free will offering from writers who felt an interest in his work, and wished to see it established as an institution in our young country. His selections, however, from other papers were so good, and his aim was so single to keep Christ and his salvation in the foreground, that his papers, although not much known in the cities, were much read and highly valued in the villages and country districts. Beginning on a small scale his enterprise grew, but heavy reverses came, such as would have entirely discouraged many and driven

them from so uninviting a field as Canadian periodical literature, but possessing force of character and confident in the goodness of his cause, he rallied to his work, and victory seemed just within his reach, when the accident,—such we call these things—finished for him the fight, and stopped for the public his publications, except in so far as this *CHRISTIAN MONTHLY* may be regarded as a continuance of one of them.

The extent of his publications may be seen by these figures, taken from the books of his printer at the time of his death, and the number circulated free of charge may be got by deducting from the printer's column the column of actual subscribers given here also.

Name of Paper.	Copies Printed.	No. of Sub.
Good News.....	5000	4224
Glad Tidings.....	750	375
Evangelist.....	2500	1084
Evangelizer.....	6000	3682

Total printed.....14,250 Tot. sold, 9,553

By deducting the one total from the other we find that 4,697 copies per month, or about 50,000 copies per annum, were given away for nothing. This, however, might not have inflicted any serious blow, though it was a heavy burden on the work, (for in a business view, the copies given gratis, might, in the way of extending business, ultimately pay their own cost), had parties paid as their subscriptions fell due. Writing his printer shortly before his death, he says:—"There are \$1215 due me for longer or shorter dates, a large percentage of which will be remitted after the new year." Alas! for the rarity not simply of Christian charity, but of Christian honesty in small affairs. The exact sum collected of what stood on the books in January, is to this date about \$200, while if the publications were continued 16,407 months' issue, were still due to subscribers of *GOOD NEWS* alone.

In these circumstances nothing what-