

PREFACE.

IN presenting to their numerous readers the first volume of THE WESLEYAN, the conductors of this periodical feel that it is a duty to themselves and the public, to lay before them a few remarks in what, perhaps, might be better considered as a Postscript than a Preface—inasmuch as it is not written until the completion of the volume. Such a document has not the advantage usually attaching to a recommendatory Preface—inasmuch as it cannot be expected to be read prior to the work itself; and therefore it cannot have the privilege of pointing out so clearly the nature and design of the work laid before the public. The volume now closed has not only been read, but a general judgment upon it must have been formed, before any prefatory explanation can have been presented.

At the same time, there is a duty to be performed which properly belongs to this part of our task. Thanks are due and are hereby presented, to numerous individuals to whom we have no other opportunity of offering our acknowledgments. These belong first to our Subscribers, who have by their patronage enabled us to proceed in an undertaking commenced without prospectus or particular profession; our first number was at once our specimen number and our prospectus; and we are pleased to be able to contrast the latter part with the former, and feel a just pride that every pledge has been more than fulfilled. The paper has been doubled in size since its commencement without any additional charge—except a trifling mail charge to country subscribers—and it now stands *lower in price* than any other periodical circulating through the province. We are aware that we have an advantage to sweeten the toil of compilation, which is not possessed by the editors or proprietors of similar undertakings which are more literary in their character—THE WESLEYAN circulates generally among kind friends who bear the same distinguishing name; and there is this friendly connection, that the general readers of our periodical are mutually agreed in the cordial belief of the same views of divine truth, and of pure and undefiled religion considered under its personal aspects; and while it becomes our duty to lay these truths in successive numbers before our readers, we are well assured that there is a cordiality of feeling on every point between our own views and those of our patrons. It would be useless to analyse the system we have pursued in the volume now complete; the Index herewith presented will amply furnish the same. But there are likewise