

THE MAGAZINE.

When laying before our readers another completed volume of the Magazine, we beg to offer them our best thanks for the kindness and support they have extended to us, and to entreat them to excuse the imperfections and defects too easily perceptible in our performance. Especially we wish to acknowledge our obligations to the few friends in this country and in Scotland who have favoured us with contributions, and all those who have, in any way, rendered us assistance in conducting the work. We trust it affords them pleasure to reflect that they have been enabled to do something for promoting the interests of the Church, and advancing the cause of pure and undefiled religion.

It was lately announced that, on account of non-payment on the part of a number of the subscribers, it was doubtful whether the Magazine could be continued. A number of ministers and others have expressed their strong desire that an attempt should be made to go on. We hope, therefore, it will give general satisfaction to intimate that a few friends, having undertaken the pecuniary responsibility, we shall continue to prosecute our labours, and issue the Magazine as heretofore. If the much-desired Union should be realised, one advantage would be that fewer Magazines would suffice, and consequently each might be better supported.

Meanwhile, the circumstance that so important a measure as the Union is under consideration, seems to render it especially desirable that there should be a denominational periodical for the expression of opinion by the ministers and members of the Church. We give free insertion to communications on that subject, however different the views of the writers may be from our own. We may repeat the desire we have often expressed, that the number of our contributors were greatly increased. This would doubtless add to the interest and usefulness of the Magazine. Complaints sometimes reach us that our Ecclesiastical Notices are so few. We can only say that we give all we can obtain, and frequently publish what we learn only from vague report or newspaper paragraphs. It would be a great favour, and we are sure would be felt as obliging by our readers generally, if Ministers, or others taking part in ecclesiastical transactions, would promptly communicate with us. Other denominations set us an example, in this respect, which we might do well to imitate.

In taking leave of our readers near the close of the year, we beg them to join with us in rendering thanks to the Giver of all good for the kindness He continues to vouchsafe. In regard to external circumstances, we may feel embarrassed and distressed. Let us pray God to order all for good, and meekly submit to His will, and let us rejoice that in the unspeakably more important department of things spiritual, the riches of Divine grace are dispensed with unimpaired liberality. Let us cast all our care upon Him who hath hitherto cared for us, and may He graciously supply all our need according to His riches in glory through Christ Jesus!