

MISSIONARY REGISTER
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NOVA-SCOTIA.

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TO OUR READERS.

We feel it necessary in our present No. to give a short explanation regarding the mode of conducting the Register for the future. We have now been for some months a regular visiter in many habitations—we trust not an unwelcome one; or, whatever feelings may have been excited at our first appearance, that further acquaintance has rendered our visits more acceptable, and that now they are anticipated with interest. We are not insensible to our defects, yet where disappointment has been felt as to our appearance, we believe it will be found in most of such cases, that the expectations were unreasonably high, as to what could be accomplished by a journal of so limited dimensions. With all our defects, however, we believe that we have been the means, in the hand of the Great head of His Church, of advancing the object for which we were established—the extension of His kingdom, and the promotion of His glory. By the mode of circulation adopted, we have come with our monthly message to nearly every family in our Church, and have thus circulated information regarding the missionary and other operations of our Church, as well as the mission work in general, to an extent which was never done in our body by any previous agency. We cannot doubt that the seed thus sown broad-cast over our church will yet bear abundant fruit. “Cast thy bread upon the waters, for thou shalt find it after many days.”

That some more efficient organ in the public press is necessary to represent the

views and to advocate the interests of our church, has been felt with increasing force by most of those who feel the liveliest interest in her progress and prosperity. Nothing would rejoice us more than the establishment of such a periodical. Yet even had we such an organ, we believe that there would still be room for a small publication like the Register—by its cheapness within the reach of every family—and thus circulating intelligence in quarters where journals of greater pretensions would not extend. But if the Register would still be necessary, even if we had a newspaper, how much more when we have not!

That the Register must continue, we regard then as settled; but as to *the mode of circulation*, we have now to announce to our readers intended changes. Our readers are all aware, that for one year a thousand copies are to be circulated gratuitously. This arrangement in our opinion had many advantages, particularly at the outset. But it was never designed to be permanent; and it is now felt that it should not continue longer than the present year. By the minutes of the Board of Foreign Missions, published in our present No., it will be seen that after the first of January next, the price is to be one shilling and three pence per annum. The price has been thus lowered, that it might be within the reach of every person, and with the view of increasing the circulation.—From the smallness of the sum, it must be obvious that it will require to be paid in advance, and remitted free of expense. It will also be seen that it will be next to