

up to the end of April, 1867—if two letters turned upsidedown follow the figure 4, then *one dollar and a quarter* must be sent—if three letters, *two dollars and a quarter*. In all the variations of this 3rd case read *half a dollar* instead of a quarter when the figure 3 is found in place of figure 4; and in like manner read *three quarters* of a dollar when the figure 2 is so found.

All in arrears, will now clearly understand, that the single dollar a volume rate, sent, will be received and considered better pay, than the double rate paid to hired collectors, as per printed terms, although, of course, it will be impossible to esteem such payment as fully equivalent to advance payment. Should any wish to know what would render their payment so esteemed, it is answered—the addition of *one quarter* to each dollar in arrears, or the sending in *with arrears*, one dollar, as *advance pay* for Vol. IV.

It is intended that the first number of Vol. IV. shall be filled with a carefully condensed view of the progress of religious events, from May up to the time of its publication; which will be early in Autumn [though for January] if the friends do not hold back their *advance* subscriptions in consequence of the vacation now announced. Such an early issue, will make the interim between volumes III. and IV. appear less tedious, and at the same time, aid in maintaining the connection of events. It is hoped, therefore, that there will be no unnecessary cessation in the remittances, as they will form, by coming early, a fitting compensation for the long *advance* of the *Tribune* to thousands, and evince a grateful willingness on the part of its friends, to share the proprietor's burdens. To every one sending *advance* payment, before the first number of volume IV. is published, a copy of an *Extra* will be sent with a receipt for the amount.

Volume IV. will appear in splendid new type.

The publication of this *Prospectus* has led many to enquire respecting the wisdom of the announced vacation. As a specimen of these inquiries, it is deemed advisable to publish the following letter, just received from a very judicious friend, and the answer thereto;—it being highly desirable that every friend of the journal should be in a position to approve, if possible, of the conductor's management in a matter of so much importance:—

"DEAR BROTHER,—To advise you on the subject on which I now write would, I suppose, be like a landsman giving advice to a sailor as to how he should manage a ship. Yet I may ask the question, Is it wise for you to have a vacation as a journalist? Are you not afraid to make the chasm in the issue? Do you not think it will affect the circulation of your future issues unfavourably? Is there no way in which you can continue the issue while collecting your *three thousand dollars*? This is a serious sum, and should be collected, and can be best collected, by yourself; but is there no way in which the *Tribune* could be conducted while you were engaged in collecting, say for a couple of months? I have no doubt that you have thought over the subject deliberately; yet you might turn it over in your mind again. Nothing that you have said blinds you, as you could easily say on more mature reflection, &c., you would continue the periodical, with improvements, and make no break in the issue.

"Yours, as ever,

"J. G."

Answer.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—I thank you most gratefully for the considerate interest in the welfare of the *Gospel Tribune*, which leads you to ask me to again consider the wisdom of my vacation announcement. At your request, I could not do otherwise than again consider it,—were it for no other purpose than to prepare myself to set my reasons before you in a suitable manner. Permit me, then, to state, in answer to your kind inquiries, that a vacation such as I have now announced entered into my original plan of conducting the work on a safe and secure basis. The time of having the vacation was not fixed in the general plan further than that it should not occur before the *Grand Trunk Railroad* was opened from Toronto to Montreal, as until then it was not desirable that the time for collecting the annual subscriptions should fall in mid-winter, when the Province could not be traversed without a ruinous waste of time and energy. It was seen, however, that as soon as the opening of the G. T. R. R. removed these hindrances, it would become exceedingly desirable to have the Annual Volume commence and end with the year, and to have the yearly subscriptions fall due in Winter, when people were, most generally, at leisure to attend to the settlement of their annual accounts, and when, moreover, each would be almost necessarily reminded of the duty by the termination of the old year and the dawning of the new. These considerations are, in themselves, probably sufficient to justify the proposed vacation, but they are not all. Others, perhaps more weighty still, remain to be noticed. When a new vessel has been long enough at sea to test her sailing capacities—to make manifest her defects, blemishes and weaknesses, you will admit the wisdom of then detaining her in port long enough to afford ample time and facilities to supply her defects and remedy her known blemishes and weaknesses. Now, in starting the *Tribune*, the projector was perfectly aware that the experience of a few years in the practical management of the work, would enable him to improve it in almost every respect. He also foresaw that in dealing with so many thousands of persons, differing widely in modes of thought, many little difficulties and misunderstandings would arise, that would ultimately impair the usefulness of the work if not carefully corrected, and for which it would be impossible for him to find either the time or the requisite facilities unless in the time of a vacation; seeing he had to perform the whole labour of the enterprise, even to the keeping of the accounts, and maintaining the whole of the correspondence; as he dared not hazard the financial safety of the journal by expending large sums in the payment of clerks. But admitting, you may say, the wisdom of contemplating and determining the necessity of having a vacation for the ends named, what fixes the propriety of having it now?—Experience having taught us all, to expect ebbs and flows in the abundance of money, the prudent avoid the increase of obligations to pay at the approach of an ebb; which points to the propriety of my having the vacation at such a time, for two reasons,—1st: it stops all increase of my obligations to pay. 2d. It will partially reconcile all Subscribers who are in any way straitened for money to the withholding of the *Tribune* for a time, and prevent many from withdrawing their names as subscribers, which otherwise they might be tempted to do. Now all admit, an ebb in the supply of money is fairly upon us. Money is now stringent, and probably will be during Summer, and hence this particular juncture is fixed upon as the most suitable time for the vacation. I perceive