

EARNEST CHRISTIANITY.

JANUARY, 1873.

A WORD TO OUR FRIENDS.



WITH earnest prayer for the Divine blessing, we send forth the first number of "EARNEST CHRISTIANITY." Believing that there is an ample field for such a publication, and being moved by a sincere desire to promote the highest interests of the church, we confidently expect the support and co-operation of all who long for the prosperity of Zion. Opinions will differ in regard to the style of the magazine, and the character of its contents, but we think that in both respects it will commend itself to those in whose estimation solid worth is of more importance than outward show. Some will think that, as regards topics, we should take a wider range, and give our publication more of a literary and less of a decidedly religious character; but while such a course might render the magazine more acceptable to those in whom a morbid taste craves a sensational diet, it would defeat the great end we have in view. Our aim is not merely to amuse, or to beguile an idle hour, but to keep steadily before the church the purpose for which God raised us up as a people, and, if possible, to awaken a more earnest love for the old truths and the old paths. We shall not entirely exclude what are commonly known as "literary articles," but these will be kept subordinate to our main design.

Since the Prospectus was issued, about two weeks ago, we have received many words of encouragement. One of our senior ministers writes:—"I this morning received your Circular, and approving, as I do most heartily, of the enterprise, I (without stirring out of my room) have put my name down for five copies; but will do what I can when I go out to get more." Another brother, with cheering words, sends an order for twenty copies, and says he will try to get one hundred. Another, ordering five copies, says:—"I am very much pleased with your Prospectus and programme. I have been wishing for some years past to see something of the kind." Still another, ordering five copies, writes:—"I received the Prospectus of the new Monthly to-day, and