

kind advices of friends, pulling him in all directions, would indeed, as the worthy incumbent of the Barony quaintly suggests, soon find himself in the predicament of "his brother the ass and his bundles of hay."

The Editor is glad to learn from the Publishers that an impression of 30,000 is required this month to meet the demand.

The success of every Periodical must depend in a great measure on the ability and judgment of its Contributors. The Editor has not been disappointed in his hopes of obtaining the assistance of Writers who are able to establish and maintain a high character for "Good Words." He takes this opportunity of stating that all the articles in the Magazine, with the exception of a few selected verses in Part I, have been furnished by their respective authors. It is not thought advisable at present to attribute to each article the name of its author; but it may be satisfactory to our readers to know that the following writers among others have already contributed to our pages:—

- The Rev. Canon STOWELL, Manchester.
- Principal TULLOCH, St. Andrews.
- Professor DAVID BROWN, Aberdeen.
- Rev. W. MOUTLEY PUNSON, London.
- The Author of "Memorials of Hedley Vicars," "English Hearts and English Hands," &c.
- Rev. HUGH STOWELL BROWN, Liverpool.
- Rev. W. LINDSAY ALEXANDER, D. D., Edinburgh.
- Rev. JOHN CAIRD, D. D., Glasgow.
- Rev. W. H. GOULD, D. D., Edinburgh.
- The Author of "The Nut-Brown Maids."
- Rev. J. R. MACDUFF, Author of the "Faithful Promiser."
- Professor BLACKIE, Edinburgh.
- Rev. W. LEITCH, Principal Elect of Queen's College, Canada.
- Miss H. ——— Rectory.
- Professor SHAW (late of Rugby), St. Andrews.
- Rev. W. LANDELS, London.
- Rev. DONALD M'LEOD, Lauder.
- A. J. SYRINGOS, Esq.
- A Member of "The Alpine Club."
- WILLIAM KADIE, Esq., Lecturer Free Church College, Glasgow.
- Rev. ADOLPHUS SAPHIR, South Shields.
- Rev. J. FLEMING STEVENSON, Dublin.
- The Author of "Work, or Plenty to Do, and How to Do it."

&c. &c. &c.

The above list of names will show the catholicity of the Magazine.

The Editor congratulates his readers on the illustrations, which will henceforth add a new feature of interest to the Magazine. The names of the distinguished artists who furnish them—James Drummond, James Archer, Erskine Nicol, and J. B.—afford a sufficient guarantee of their excellence.

The Editor has also to acknowledge with gratitude the many kind advices which have been tendered to him. He is advised, for example, "not to have long articles," and also "to beware of little trifling scraps, which may give a mouthful to a busy reader, but never can satisfy an intelligent one." He has been warned by one to "beware of 'secular papers, and to confine his pages strictly to Sabbath reading," while another earnestly exhorts, "not to have too much preaching, which few will read; to have something, of course, peculiarly suited for Sabbath, but other articles also, though not what are called religious. These may induce many a young man to read the Magazine on Sabbath, who will not lay it down without reading some good words, whose influence may be lasting." "Give us a page for the young," asks one correspondent; "why not have good words for the aged and sick," demands another; for servants?" adds a third.

"I recognise your publication," writes a subscriber, "as being a week-day magazine, with the addition of papers of a purely religious character—the whole being 'Good Words' for week days and for Sabbath days.

The Editor will consider all these suggestions, but his correspondents must sympathise with him when he is compelled by their advices to remember the well-known difficulties of his poor brother the ass and his bundles of hay! He does not deem it necessary to claim the patience or forbearance of his readers. He thinks they ought to be grateful for the wholesome food furnished by his able contributors; and he is thankful for the proof that they are so, which is afforded by the large demand for its supply.

POETRY.

(Selected for the Presbyterian.)

MIZPAH.

When far from the hearts where our fondest thoughts centre,

Denied for a time their loved presence to share,

In spirit we meet, when the closet we enter
And find sweet communion together in prayer!

Oh fondly I think, as night's curtain surrounds them,

The Shepherd of Israel tenderly keeps,
The angels of light are encamping around them,
They are watched by the eye that never slumbers nor sleeps.

When the voice of the morning once more shall awake them,

And summon them forth to the toils of the day,

I will think of that God who will never forsake them—

The Friend ever near, though all else be away.

Then why should one thought of anxiety seize us,

Though distance divide us from those whom we love,

They rest in the covenant mercy of Jesus—
Their prayers meet with ours in the mansions above.

Oh sweet bond of friendship!—what'er may betide us,

Though on life's stormy billows our barks may be driven,

Though distance, or trial, or death may divide us,
Eternal reunion awaits us in Heaven.

McDuff.

THE OLDEST HYMN.

[In Paed. Lib. iii. of Clement of Alexandria is given in Greek the most ancient hymn of the primitive Church. It is there (150 years after the apostles) asserted to be of much earlier origin. It may have been sung by the 'beloved disciple' before he ascended to his reward.]

Shepherd of tender youth!
Guiding in love and truth
Through the devious ways;
Christ, our triumphant King;
We come Thy name to sing,
To shout Thy praise.

Thou art our holy Lord!
The all-subduing Word!
Healer of strife!

Thou didst Thyself abase,
That from sin's deep disgrace
Thou mightest save our race,
And give us life.

Thou art Wisdom's High-Priest!
Thou hast prepared the feast
Of holy love!
And in our mortal pain
None calls on Thee in vain,
Help Thou dost not disdain,
Help from above.

Ever be Thou our Guide,
Our Shepherd and our Pride,
Our Staff and Song!
Jesus! Thou Christ of God!
By the perennial Word
Lead us where Thou hast trod—
Make our faith strong!

So now, and till we die,
Sound we Thy praises high,
And joyal sing,
Infants, and the glad throng,
Who to Thy church belong,
Unite and swell the song
To Christ our King.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED SINCE LAST PUBLICATION.

William Allen, Drummond, 1859-60....	1 00
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