

help, and also we hope with increased editorial efficiency. The Christian friends to whom we made reference in the October number, as feeling an interest in our effort to circulate religious literature among the people, have decided on taking hold of the CHRISTIAN MONTHLY, and devoting to it a portion of their time, and of the means God has given them. They have decided on this course of their own calm and deliberate sense of duty, and from no outward pressure, certainly not from the editor, who though on one hand sorry at the thought of the CHRISTIAN MONTHLY ceasing, yet on the other hand welcomed the prospect of finding relief from a large amount of anxiety and no small burden of literary toil. In fact the decision came to by these men at this time, and in this manner, looks like the finger of God who as a Sovereign power above us "shapes our ends rough-hew them how we will." Failing to find sympathy and help where he expected them, and finding them where he had no right to look for them, has been a striking feature in the Editor's experience. At the beginning of the enterprise when matters were discouraging enough and when nothing was left but faith in God's promises to bless the feeblest efforts to advance His Gospel, then sympathy and encouragement came from unexpected quarters. The editor will never forget the friends and helpers of these days. It was at this period that a gentleman from the city of Quebec, personally a stranger to the editor, ordered at his expense a copy of the CHRISTIAN MONTHLY to be sent to every reading room in the Dominion connected with the Young Men's Christian Associations, as also to the public institutions such as Jails, Penitentiaries, and Asylums, which benefaction still continues in force. Then kind encouraging letters came at intervals until now, when announcement made in last number which spoke of the possibility of publication ceasing at the end of the year. This announcement has brought us many and very kind letters, one especially which we esteem highly as coming from the pen of a minister of the gospel in his 87th year, who has been himself long engaged in the diffusion of Christian literature. He writes as follows:—

"Sir,—It would be matter of deep regret were the CANADA CHRISTIAN MONTHLY to cease. It has abundantly shown itself worthy of continuance, and to be well deserving of a greatly enlarged circulation; for it is just a printed visitor from month to month—would it were weekly, every Saturday—that our general Christian population require. An ecclesiastical monthly Record is so far good for giving diversified information, and for stirring up to more and more of Home and Foreign Mission work. But it is of much greater importance and necessity to supply the people, every now and then, with practical matter of enlightening and stimulating character, bearing on personal and social religion, embracing themselves and families, their neighbours around them, their Christian brotherhood and sisterhood, and mankind at large.

"Your CHRISTIAN MONTHLY is well fitted to be subservient to these momentous purposes, and instead of its discontinuance, there is a clamant necessity for multiplying the wide diffusion of really good, plain instructive and cheap periodicals, to help in counteracting, as far as possible, the deplorable abounding of that trivial, nay, much pernicious reading which is going forth broadcast wherever it can be made to reach, by unprincipled selfish emissaries.

"It is devoutly to be wished, then, that your unpretending, modest, but really valuable CHRISTIAN MONTHLY may be sustained and sent forth, and that its