

The Presbyterian.

A MISSIONARY AND RELIGIOUS RECORD



OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

CONDUCTED BY A COMMITTEE OF THE LAY ASSOCIATION.

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VOLUME V.

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The Presbyterian.

The present number completes the *12th* volume of our monthly. We intend to say somewhat in regard to the circulation and prospects of the *Presbyterian* in the first issue of our *sixth* volume. In the mean time we bespeak the attention of our Subscribers to the following statements.

As the *Presbyterian* was started chiefly with the view of supplying a want which was generally felt throughout our Church in Canada, viz.: of affording a medium of communication betwixt its various congregations, the labours of the members of the Committee, entrusted with its management, have been mainly directed towards the accomplishment of this object. The Committee embrace this opportunity of gratefully acknowledging the attentions of those clerical brethren and others, who have from time to time contributed intelligence regarding proceedings within the sphere of their labours and observation. The same acknowledgement is gratefully made to those who have favoured us with original communications. As no pecuniary profits were looked for from our publication, its price was fixed at such a rate as was conceived sufficient, with the circulation contemplated for its support, to cover all expenses and render it *self-supporting*. The reason for this hope not being realized may be learnt from the following circumstance. The Despatch-book has been recently overhauled with the view of purging our list of such Subscribers as are in arrears, prior to making

up our list for a *new* Despatch-book, with which we commence the New Year. In performing this task it struck us with no small surprise to find that there are various names upon its folios, to whom the annual price of our Periodical can be no object, that have fallen into arrears for some years. A long list of parties in this predicament, amounting to upwards of 200, has been made out; and, in compliance with the suggestion of the sub-committee appointed for this purpose, intimation is now given that with this number we will discontinue to address our Journal to such parties as may receive it addressed in *red ink*, if they fail to remit their arrears before the close of 1852. We trust, however, that they will evince their sense of the reasonableness of our determination on this point by making prompt payment. At the same time we express a confident hope that those parties, who have hitherto borne in mind that the *Presbyterian* is payable in advance, will not be behind at the present time. All our Subscribers we now regard as indebted to us, with the exception of a few very who have preferred to pre-pay at once for a few years.

We have to complain of not a few in our *Arrears List*, with regard to whom we have only got the announcement, through the Post Office circular, of "Left the country," "Refused," "Not called for," &c., &c.

We have hitherto sent numbers *gratis* to upwards of 50 parties in Great Britain, who take an interest in the Church in these Provinces. The Committee has reluctantly decided that under existing circumstances it is expedient to discontinue such

gratis distribution. We indulge the hope that the majority of these parties may feel disposed to countenance with their support a periodical, through whose columns is conveyed to them considerable intelligence regarding the adherents to the Church of Scotland in British America. We beg to certify parties who may be so disposed, that Mr. Johnston, bookseller, Greenock, has some months ago kindly consented to act as our Agent at Home for the transmission of any moneys on account of the *Presbyterian*.

In our next issue will appear the continuation of "Father Ripa's Residence at the Court of China," and the closing number of "Churchyard Gleanings." The communication from Beauharnois, which has just come to hand, will also appear in our next issue.

N. B.—Feeling a desire to give practical effect to the duty of *doing to others as we wish them to do to us*, we notice that in the last number of one of our Exchanges, the *Cornwall Constitutional*, credit has been given to the *Presbyterian* for a truly graphic description of a "Sail down the St. Lawrence" from Prescott to Montreal. This description appeared in the November number of the *Canada Evangelist*, another of our Exchanges. We read it with much interest, appreciating fully the observations of the Editor in his "Notes of a Tour."

CHURCH IN CANADA.

MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

Ministers and congregations are re-