# The Presbyterian Review.

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"I am in the place where I am demanded of Conscience to speak the truth, and therefore the truth I speak, impugn it whoso list."—Joux Kxox.

Toronto, November 2, 1893.

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## A Word by the Way.

WITH this number the Review has added eight additional pages to its size, giving space for features to which our constituency is justly entitled, and enabling us to extend and improve the departments already existing. Our renders will observe that more room is devoted to the missionary work of the Church, to the Sabbath School, and to reading suitable for an evening at home with the young. This latter is a distinct feature of the paper, embellished with illustrations produced at great cost and of high artistic taste and finish. So far as we know they are unequalled by anything in the same line published on this side of the Atlantic. They have been specially prepared in Britain, the complete series numbering several hundreds of varied design, but of uniform excellence, occupying several months in the execution. Week after week as they appear, the reader will find them of considerable educative value and to the younger people they prove bright, instructive and fascinating. should It is not intended that these beautiful sketches should fill the place of a page for the home That will come in due course as we develop our plans. So also will other features of our work The wisdom of a gradual progression has been often demonstrated Our aim is to add to the paper as the demand may justify, feeling our way step by step on sure ground, undertaking what we may satisfactorily fulfil, feeling sure that by the hearty co-operation of the friends of a good cause we shall reach the desired goal. May we not ask for the patient forbearance of our readers who are chafing for better things all around the circle of their church efforts? The difficulties in placing such a paper as the Review on the right track, laden with the right kind of freight, cannot be estimated by a passing glance at the title-page or the exterior of the paper. It is as yesterday, as it of a verity is, since the REVIEW has taken its present form; yet week by week it has shown a steady course of improvement. Its first has been its weakest number, and the purpose of the publishers is that each week shall excel its predecessor so that its last past shall always be its weakest number ; always better in store. The farmer does not expect return just as soon as he has sown the seed ; nor need the publisher. By arduous and patient labour advance will follow advance all we ask is the confidence and co-operation of our readers. So fur we have been placed under deep obligations to many friends who have come forward with words of encouragement and promises of support. Let us feel that we are united in a good cause and all will go well. Already our efforts to bring together able contributors have been flatteringly successful, and it is probable that so soon as our next issue we shall be able to announce a strong editorial staff. But, here, again, we would remind the reader that, as the preacher depends considerably on the prayers and sympathy of his hearers, so the editor must depend on the good will and co-operation of his readers.

### Agitation for Social Purity.

TINE conflict between the two forces, the good and the evil, must go on while the world lasts Religion and morality will always find hostile focs in the world. The Word has it so. There are those who think that social, moral and religious peace is to be prized above all earthly blessings, that wa fare on institutions, as on men, is deeply to be deplored, but not peace but a sword while sin reigns. If vice abounds, pious people must gird on the armour of righteousness and do battle. can be no truce between certainly There wickedness and righteonsness. How, therefore, can the well-meaning and strenuous efforts of the Social Purity Society be sneered at by professing Christians? It is held that the exposure of vice spreads it and vitiates the public mind, and those who expose it are characterized as seekers after notoriety. Vice must be exposed in order that it be rooted out, or frustrated. If there were security against exposure, why, evil practices would flourish unchecked. It is by bringing wickedness to the light of day that public opinion can be brought to bear upon it. What is wanted is sound public opinion, which the schoolroom, the pulpit and the press must fan into flame, then convincing proof of licentiousness which usually falls to the press, or to bodies such as the Society above referred to, to furnish. Bring these two things together and public opinion will prevail. It is stated that the coming season will develop much activity in Britain against loose morals and special attention will be directed to India. Yesterday, a great convention in London gave the keynote to the campaign. Among the speakers were Mr. Stansfield, M.P., Rov. Hugh Price Hughes, Mr. Hall Caine, Mr. W. T. Stead, Lady Somerset and Miss Frances Willard. The principal subjects discussed were the horrors of the Chakla system in the cantonments of India, child marriages and sales of infant girls in Indian cities, subjects every Foreign Mission Committee is more or less familiar with as the great curse of India. The burning zeal of the promoters of the agitation may occasionally lead them to intemperate statement, but let us be thankful that there is a burning zeal, and pray that the fire may burn fiercely until open vice shall have been consumed.

#### "How to Interest the Young."

IN the range of church work probably no question receives more attention from the thoughtful mind at the present time than the one which forms the headline for these sentences. It is felt that the energy, enthusiasm and activity, which are synonomous with youth, are not brought under tribute to the cause of Christ in the proportion which might reasonably be expected by the Church. How to bridge over the period between the Sabbath School and the church membership of mature manhood, how to instil a deep and serious interest in congregational work so as to maintain an unbroken record