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INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

When the youthful son of Jesse stepped on the field of Israel's conflict with the Philistines, he was met with the taunting challenge of his eldest brother:—"Why comest thou down hither." * * * "I know thy pride and the haughtiness of thine heart: for thou art come down that thou mightest see the battle." To such reprehensible and sarcastic utterances, David's calm and dignified response was: "What have I now done! Is there not a cause?" If the little periodical that now ventures on the field of journalism should be met with a similar challenge, it is believed by its projectors, that no other apology is needed than that embodied in the reply of Jesse's stripling—"Is there not a cause?"

The present is an age when the Press is employed, to a melancholy extent, in the interests of skepticism, superstition, and practical licentiousness. The adversary of truth and righteousness knows the value of types, and in these last days he is pressing them into his service, as in no past period. Noxious literature, of every kind and in every form, is coming in like a flood to enfeeble the mind, to debase the conscience, and to corrupt the heart and life. Even within the precincts of the christian church doctrinal errors are advocated and promulgated that tend to sap the foundations of the christian faith—modes of worship are adopted that are utterly destitute of scripture warrant, and a practical conformity to the world is tolerated and defended that mars her beauty, weakens her influence, and drags her down from her proper moral elevation to the world's low level. The nations of the world have not yet, fully, cordially, practically, fallen in with the Divine decree that has constituted the Mediator, the King of Zion, and "Head over all things to the church." In such a condition of things, it is believed by the projectors of the Magazine that there is *need* for it as a small contribution to the wholesome religious literature of the day; and to every challenge of presumption, their reply is: "Is there not a cause?"

"Speaking the truth in love," is the apostolic utterance which has been selected as the motto of "The Monthly Advocate." It has been adopted because it expresses not only the *work* to be done, but also the *spirit* in which the managers desire and hope to do it. Whilst the elucidation, vindication, and diffusion of evangelical truth will be the great object of the Magazine, it is hoped that those who contribute to its pages will never allow themselves to forget, that if conducted in a selfish, sectarian, and bitter spirit, it will utterly fail to accomplish the design of its publication. Whilst, therefore, it will give no uncertain sound on the great questions of truth and morality—whilst it will be candid and fear-