

THE
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OF THE

CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

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A PARTING WORD TO OUR READERS.

The readers of the *Record* are already aware of the arrangements made for the publication in Montreal of the "*Presbyterian Record*," as the official organ of the now happily united Church, covering the ground formerly occupied by the Records of the several Churches. The new *Record* will appear on the first of January, 1876; and thus the present number is the last issue of the "*Home and Foreign Record of the Canadian Presbyterian Church*."

It is always painful to say the parting word to friends with whom we have long had intercourse; although, in this case, the pain is alleviated by the assurance, that the separation that is taking place, and the change that is being effected, will result in good to the Church, in its varied interests. For a period of not very much less than a quarter of a century, the writer has conducted the official *Record*, first of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and latterly of the Canada Presbyterian Church. No one has been more conscious of imperfections and shortcomings than the Editor himself. It may be said, too, that perhaps few can realize, as he can, the difficulty of satisfactorily conducting such a publication, and of meeting the varied, and in some cases discordant views entertained by ministers and members of the Church, as to the character and objects of such a periodical. Sincere gratitude is felt, and hearty thanks are given, for the forbearance and kindness ever manifested by a large constituency. We gratefully acknowledge also the aid received from occasional contributors, and especially from the Clerks of the several Presbyteries. The Editor can say with a good conscience that it has ever been his aim to promote the interests of the Church, of which he has had the honour and privilege of being a member and a minister, and to do this impartially, and without hurting the feelings of individuals. How far he has succeeded, it is for others to judge.

In looking back on the past, and contemplating the changes that have taken place, and the progress that has been made, many thoughts crowd into the mind, and many feelings fill the heart. We cannot allow ourselves to give expression to these. There are many things in the past, in connection especially with honoured servants of the Lord who have ceased from their labours, and are now enjoying their rest, on which we could linger with pleasure; but we would rather look forward to the