

THE

WITNESS OF TRUTH.

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VOLUME FIVE.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

The fourth volume of the *Witness*, having been so favourably received, and being called upon to continue our efforts in the good work of contending for the faith through the press, we commence the new year with a new volume. Whether the fifth volume will be greater, better, more interesting, more instructive, or edifying than previous volumes, neither its editor nor any of its readers can tell; but one thing is certain—it is commenced with as much earnestness, devotion to the cause, religious zeal, and Christian hope, as any volume that has preceded it. And if the interest which it elicits on the part of readers exceed our expectation in the ratio of our last year's offering, we shall only have disappointment upon disappointment of the most favourable, happy, and welcome character.

As it regards intentions, and all that these intentions either embrace or imply, we cannot promise more for the future than we have performed in the past. Still, we anticipate the fifth to be the best volume, because of increased means to render it so. To say nothing of other sources, the fact that two evangelists will be in actual service in the field of labour during this year, who will furnish reports, share their counsels with the brethren, tender lively exhortations to all concerned; together, probably, with an occasional essay, will greatly enhance the contents of the present volume, and make it abundantly more useful and influential in the divine work of edifying saints and converting the yet unconverted to the right ways of the Lord. Indeed if the spirit already partially developed in past Numbers of this work, showing, by practical fruits, that a goodly few are disposed to labour with us on the pages of the *Witness*, by way of correspondence—if, we say, such a cordial and co-operative spirit continues, and increases, this paper will prosper and succeed to a charm.

But we need unity or co-operation in these four things;—unity of sentiment in the expediency of a periodical organ; unity in contributions with the pen; unity in pecuniary aid; unity in the work of