

# THE MONTHLY RECORD

OF THE

## Church of Scotland

IN

NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK, & ADJOINING PROVINCES.

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No. 1

"IF I FORGET THEE, O JERUSALEM! LET MY RIGHT HAND FORGET ITS CUNNING."—PS. 137: 5.

"THE thing which hath been, it is that which shall be, and there is no new thing under the sun." These are the words of a very wise man, and a man of large and varied experience of the world. So, if there is no new thing under the sun, and if the thing which hath been is that which shall be in all things, we may presume that these words are as applicable to the management and success of the *Record* as to anything else. And so, as we look back over the year through which we have come, we are glad to notice the fact that we have not been without some measure of success, indeed as large a measure of success as could be expected, situated as we are. If so, then so long as we secure the conditions of the past year, we trust that for the year to come we may still continue to enjoy the same. And be it remembered that what we have been enabled to accomplish heretofore has been almost entirely owing to two classes of our friends and patrons; owing, on the one hand, to those gentlemen, Lay and Clerical, who have from month to month contributed interesting and pleasant articles for our pages; and, on the other hand,

owing to our indefatigable Agents scattered over the length and breadth of the Synodic bounds. Whatever we have been in the past, as to the contents of our numbers, we owe to our contributors, and, whatever we have been in circulation, we owe to our Agents and those who assist them throughout the territory of the Church. This is our past experience. And so we look for the realization hereafter of what we have been realizing heretofore. If the thing which hath been, shall be, in this respect, we shall enter upon a new year with the full assurance that our work in the management of the small organ of a small church will not be in vain. On the part of the Committee of Management, we have simply to say, "The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be."

For some time past, it has been the custom to hold a prayer meeting, on the first Sunday of each month, immediately after Sunday School in St. Andrew's Church, Halifax. A part of the exercises consists in the reading of letters or exhortations sent in anonymously from