

warning manner in the act of wickedness. It is not long since I was called hastily to witness the spectacle of one struck speechless upon the very bed of guilt and shame, which soon proved to him the bed of death, and his death has been since followed by that of another who was killed, accidentally, as we call it, in the act of theft, and by that of a third who perished from exposure, as there is all reason to fear, in a state of intoxication:—but how many have been left behind as guilty as themselves in sins of impurity, dishonesty and intemperance!

A BELIEVER.

* A remarkable addition which I have heard to this sad history was, the death of a woman with whom this person was more than suspected of having maintained an adulterous intercourse with the connivance of her husband. Her body was found in the road leading through the woods to her habitation, without any marks of violence or assignable cause for the event. The husband has since lost every thing by fire, and is reduced, with his children, to abject want.

THE CHRISTIAN SENTINEL.

THREE-RIVERS, FRIDAY 3d SEPTEMBER, 1830.

It is, in no small degree, with feelings of the deepest interest, that we present the public with the first number of the CHRISTIAN SENTINEL in its new form. Our own personal circumstances conspire to heighten those feelings, seeing that we have broken up a domestic establishment several months ago at a former residence, at the instance of the Ecclesiastical Authorities of this Diocese, for the sole purpose of undertaking the arduous duties of Editor to a religious Periodical, destined as an instrument of promoting the glory of God and the salvation of men. It is true, that in our own domestic concerns, the public, whom we have the honor to address, can have but little interest. Yet we humbly conceive it not to be indecorous to state these circumstances, that the public may see the situation in which we are placed; and the friends of the Church manfully give us their support; and not suffer the pains that have been taken in this matter for their and their children's good, to end in disappointment.

We trust that we may appeal with some degree of confidence to the generous magnanimity of all who feel themselves benefitted by the labours of the Church Missionaries in the Canadas. In particular, no one can be a stranger to the untiring efforts and Christian zeal of the venerable personage under whose especial patronage and protection this paper comes before the public eye, and who, when he might have spent his days in opulence and ease in the land which gave him birth, chose rather to encounter toil, anxiety, difficulty and disappointment in the wildest parts of Canada, as an humble instrument in the hands of God in ministering the bread of life to those who were destitute of the appointed means of grace in the ordinances of the Gospel. No one can be ignorant of the open hand which he has invariably extended to the calls of charity, especially that charity which is founded in the love of Christ, and has for its appropriate province the spiritual welfare of our fellow-creatures. Multitudes can testify to the truth of our statement, and point to abundant proofs of his Christian liberality in his numerous acts for the furtherance of the cause of religion.

We say not this with a desire to be his panegyrist, or to pronounce his eulogy, or with a view of invading his ear with the strains of adulation: but we say it because, knowing that his "praise is in all the churches," we are purely desirous of turning a practical view of these circumstances into the channel of his own expanded benevolence; and because that, since the benefits are conferred, the receivers may be justly appealed to for a small return in throwing in each his own mite, and causing the genial current to spread over a more extended space, and carry its fertilizing influence through an ample region. We are confident, also, that we may, with safety remind those whom we now address, of the fact of their receiving and enjoying the labours of our Missionaries without cost or charge. To fear that such an appeal would wound the nicest Christian feelings, would be to fear that they are destitute of the Christian graces. And to say that most of the families thus benefitted cannot, or will not give back in exchange for its value, a sum sufficient to pay for a religious periodical, is a kind of tax on their gratitude and generosity, that we feel by no means warranted in levying. The people of England do much to help us, and we ought to do a little to help ourselves. We therefore, without at this time enlarging on the many advantages of

a weekly religious publication to every Christian family, respectfully (yet with some degree of confidence) appeal to the gratitude and the generosity of our Christian friends, and affectionately press upon them the propriety and the necessity of giving their cordial and generous patronage to THE CHRISTIAN SENTINEL, which we now present them, and for the success of which so much pains have been taken.

It is true that, on its account, public expectation has been both raised and disappointed. But this has been the fault of circumstances rather than of any particular individuals; and we have the strongest grounds to hope that a Christian public will make every needful allowance. Measures are now taken to prevent, as far as possible, any interruption to the regular appearance of the "SENTINEL;" and we hope that its present form and weekly return will not diminish, but rather increase its power both to please and to profit. We are provided with a good stock of Correspondence, with approved periodicals, besides the assistance of our own brethren of the Clergy.

There is another cause for a feeling of interest on this occasion; and it is for ourselves individually. Not having been trained to literary pursuits from early life, we lay aside all claim to scholarship; and it is with distrust in our own abilities, and a degree of "fear and trembling" that we engage in so important an undertaking. We are aware of the variety of persons and tastes to whom it will be our duty at least not to give just occasion for offence; and the probability that our steps will be narrowly inspected. But by prudence and industry, if our health be spared, we hope to make amends for deficiencies in other things, and see our labours crowned with some degree of success. Above all, we shall study to present our readers with sound and healthy spiritual food, which shall minister to godly edifying, and building up in our holy faith.

With regard to the price of our paper, it may be necessary to make an apology.—When we came to calculate with the paper merchant, the printer, and the postmaster; and make allowance for bad debts and incidental expences, we found that a *scrupulously* good material and decent workmanship, (such as it should be to be worth preserving,) could not be afforded at a lower rate than that at which we have set it; in the mean time that the Editor's labour goes for nothing. It is true we might have afforded it cheaper by using *very poor paper and ink, and doing the work in a slovenly manner*. We have reduced the terms *half a dollar* from the price named in our first Prospectus, in the hope that the Subscriptions will be thereby increased so as not to subject us to loss. We thought it advisable to get a new subscription, the terms of which will be found on the last page.

Since we derive not our support from our Editorial labours, we are satisfied that our clerical brethren, and other friends of the Church (and we may add some of our own private friends,) will most cheerfully act as voluntary agents, with no other reward than the consciousness of doing good. And we request those to whom we have taken the liberty of sending our prospectus, to obtain subscribers as soon as possible, and favour us with a list of names. In the mean time we shall continue to send the "SENTINEL" till we are advised either to increase or to diminish the number sent. We must also remind our patrons, that our success depends on their co-operation; and an outlay of £31 or 32 per month requires many tributary rills to keep our cistern flowing outwards.

To Correspondents.—We have a lot of communications on hand, consigned to us by the Rev. Gentleman who at one time was *Editor elect*; but have not yet had leisure to look over them. Several we have noticed were written for a particular time; and are of course now nearly out of date. Some are too lengthy for a weekly paper; but we may dispose of them by *weekly adjournment* till finished.

We must beg leave to say a word on the propriety and decency of *fair hands*; because it is proper to be plain and intelligible, and *indecent to disguise truth*. Some pretenders to profound thinking affirm: That where mystery begins, religion ends. If they would confine this their dogma to the inscrutable mysteries of an unintelligible hand writing, the humblest believer in the world would say Amen. We confess ourselves a little given to the marvellous; but some few of the manuscript articles which lately came into our possession, have administered a most powerful antidote.—We trust that our kind Correspondents will be as ambitious of having their compositions *understood by the type setter, as of seeing them fairly and correctly printed*.