The Presbyterian Review.

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Toronto, August 24, 1893.

A Word About Ourselves.

IT is probably too soon to form a definite estimate of the feeling with which THE PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW has feeling with which THE PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW has been received since it passed to the present proprietors. Of letters there have been many convoying the kindly wishes of the writers, and there has been no lack of encouraging offers of support. Nor have friends been less candid in their criticism, from which we hope to profit. A number find the change from the old form quite a wrench from what they had been so long accustomed to as to regard with affection. But some of these have already overcome their objection on this score and are beginning to think that the new form is hundier, that the classification of departments has its advantages and that, on the whole, the change is for the better. That this opinion will become practically unanimous in a short time, there is every reason to believe. Advertisers, also, regard a paper which can be easily bound and preserved on the library shelf as a more valuable medium for bringing their business before the family, than one which, on account of its size, is not kept, but when read is thrown away. To show that modern ideas are moving in the direction we have pursued it is only necessary to note that almost all the religious weeklies have adopted or are adopting a similar or a somewhat similar form. The Christian Union, now the Outlook, is now run almost exactly on our plan; the general features of the Chicago Interior are the same. The Christian Leader, the Congregationalist and other notable papers have for long set us an example and the latest to throw in its lot is the Herald and Presbyter, one of the brightest and best in the United States. So near does its experience tally with our own that we give an extract from the article in which it announces the change from the old eight page form :-

"For more than a year we have been studying the question: 'What is the best form for a weekly religious paper?' We feel that generous and increasing support justifies us in giving, and entitles our subscribers to receive, the best paper we can make both in matter and form. With this issue we present the conclusion to which we have come. We began the study with a prejudice in favor of the eight page form to which we were accustomed. We tried to persuade ourselves that nothing was better. We compared it with the sixteen-page form, so common

among our exchanges, and proved its superiority. We compared it with other forms just coming into use, and thought we had proved it superior, also, to them, but close attention to the papers which have adopted this convinces us the smaller form has possibilities in the way of good printing, prompt delivery and enlargement when necessary, which give it the advantage for our purposes over every other form. Our readers may not see these advantages at first. They are familiar with the old form and headings, and know just where to find each department. We are sure, however, that after a few weeks, if not at first, all will agree that the new form is an improvement upon the old."

Our readers will see that in changing the form of The Preserventan Review we are moving with the times, meeting the demand for modern improvements, with the sole object of providing a conveniently gotten-up paper equal to the best published in the interests of neighbouring Churches. But we do not intend to rest on our oars. We have much yet to do ere we approach our standard. As a step in advance the number of pages will be shortly added to and the form will be slightly enlarged. Then more space will be at our command for our arduous work, and better service for the Church will be aimed at. An improved quality of paper will also be given. We expect in this way to provide an attractive as well as an interesting paper, one of which our constituency as well as ourselves may justly be proud.

The Vote on Saturday.

THE long bitter Sunday car campaign is now at an end. and there remains but the vote, to be taken on Saturday. We have not failed to point out the importance of that vote, on which so much depends. Should the friends of Sunday cars be found with a majority, a blow will have been given to our Sabbath, and to our moral practice as well. There can be little doubt that a Sunday car service will be but the forerunner of evils from which Toronto is now comparatively free. It must be remembered that Saturday's vote will decide more questions than whether cars shall be run on Sunday. It will decide whether the influences for good which happily have hitherto permeated the community, in a marked degree, shall be weakened, whether the Church will in the future, as she has done in the past, be able to command the reverence and attention of the people, whether the public conscience will be further deadened, and permit of the accessories to Sunday cars which have been their accompaniments, so far as we know, in every other city on this continent. These things are bound up in the vote, and it behooves every right-thinking, lawloving, Sabbath-loving citizen to be at his or her post on Saturday to discharge a duty imperative on every voter.

It has been shown in these columns that about 800 men are absolutely necessary for one day's service, and that a Sunday service would require that additional number of men, or a continuous service from the present employees of seven days a week. The figures may be elaborated thus: 800 per day equals a total of 5,600 services per week of seven days. At present there are 4,800 services per week of six days. Will the Street Railway Company add 800 services per week by increasing the staff at an increase of one-seventh in the cost, or will it place the services on the men at present employed, giving them practically seven days' work for six days' pay. The hesitancy in consenting to a binding agreement favours the latter view, thus, the labour question is raised in a very palpable