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Canadian Churchman.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1890.

REV. PROF. WM. CLARK, LL.D. Editor.

Subscription, - - - Two Dollars per Year.
(If paid strictly in Advance, \$1.00.)

The CANADIAN CHURCHMAN is a Family Paper devoted to the best interests of the Church in Canada, and an excellent medium for advertising, being by far the most widely circulated Church Journal in the Dominion.

Notices of Deaths, Marriages, Births, etc., two cents a word prepaid.

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AGENT.—The Rev. W. H. Wadleigh is the only gentleman travelling authorized to collect subscriptions for the CANADIAN CHURCHMAN.

Address all communications,
FRANK WOOTTEN,
Box 2640, TORONTO.
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OUR WORK.

In commencing a new series of a long and firmly established Church of England newspaper, under a new name, it is desirable, and even necessary, that a few words should be said respecting our purpose, the kind of work which we hope to accomplish, and the manner in which we intend to carry it out.

In the first place, it is the distinct purpose of those who have the management of this paper, that it shall represent the Church of England, and not any party in the Church. We do not agree with those who maintain that the Church of England is a compound or conglomerate of heterogeneous elements which are held together not by any internal, harmonizing principle but by a kind of external bond. We maintain, on the contrary, that all the contents of the Prayer Book, whatever their form, whether theological, didactic, or devotional, are parts of a consistent whole, and rest upon the ancient foundation of Catholic doctrine before it was corrupted by mediæval superstition.

To use an expression which was once common in the English Church, we are Prayer Book men, quite contented with the Prayer Book as it stands, believing that it contains pure primitive truth without any admixture of Roman error.

Whilst, however, we ourselves adopt, without hesitation, what is known as the Anglican position, we are quite ready to recognize the fact that different schools have existed in the Church, not merely from the Reformation as is generally said, but from the earliest days of Christianity itself. Within certain limits the existence of these schools has worked nothing but good for the deepening and broadening of theology, and for the extension of the Church's influence on the world. Within these limits, these schools are the glory and not the shame of the great Anglican Communion. We desire, therefore, in no ungrudging spirit to recognize the value of the work which has been done by Evangelicals, Broad Churchmen, and High Churchmen in turn. In spite of the excesses which have been found in all of these parties, the Church of England could ill spare the contributions made by any one of them to her thought, her life, and her activity. Standing upon these convictions, therefore, we shall cordially recognize any

good and loyal work which is carried on by any of those who have a legitimate place within the boundaries of the Church.

One considerable part of our work will be to record the work of the Church in Canada, in England, and in the other dependencies of the British Crown, and in the Mission Field. Naturally, our Church news will be primarily and most largely concerned with our own Canadian Church; and here we must ask for the aid and cooperation of the clergy and laity throughout the Dominion. It is not easy, under any circumstances, to preserve a record of Church work in due proportion; and any approach to such a result can be secured only by the union and harmony of Churchmen at large. For our part, we can say that we shall do our best to preserve the remembrance of all good work done by members of the Church, whatever may be the extent of their agreement or disagreement with our own position.

With respect to all movements for deepening the life and stimulating the activity of the Church, it will be unnecessary to point out that these must secure the sympathy of all who love the Church or her Lord. Parochial and diocesan missions, quiet days, united clerical conference and action, increase of the episcopate, works and methods like these have been recognized as among the necessities of our times.

The movement for the promotion of reunion among the various bodies into which the Church of Christ has unfortunately been divided has made progress in the Mother Country, and in the Colonies, and notably here in Canada. Even if no scheme has been devised which has much promise of realization, it is something that the evils of disunion have been recognized, that desires for reunion should have been expressed and that Christians of various communions should have met together in friendly conference, for the sake of considering if any basis of reunion could be discovered. It will, doubtless, often be our duty and our privilege to draw attention to the progress of this great work.

We regard it as a great error on the part of Churchmen, and of Christians generally, to look unkindly upon the investigations of Science. It is quite true that there is a certain species of scientific men who are as irrational as the worst kind of theologians are supposed to be. These men are the easiest to confute. But the injuries inflicted upon the faith and its advocates by the insolences of scientific men who do not know the limitations of their own province, can prove no justification for the denunciation by theologians of the legitimate examination of the facts of nature, and the lawful conclusions of natural science. It argues no strength of faith, but the contrary, to be always trembling for the ark of God, and this even among those who should be regarded as friends.

One department of considerable importance, and, we trust, of profit to our readers, will be the reviewing of new books. Every book sent to us will receive notice short or long, according to our estimate of its importance; and we shall often deem it our duty to bring under the notice of our readers books which have not been sent to us in the ordinary way.

We shall endeavour to procure, from time to time, sets of papers adapted for devotional reading. These will be, in some cases, translations or adaptations from earlier or foreign sources, in

other cases, the original work of regular contributors to our columns.

We acknowledge, with much thankfulness, promises of help which we have received from many leading clergymen and laymen throughout the Dominion; and we beg to assure these and others who may come to our assistance that their contributions will be used, according to our best judgment, in the service of the Church.

It has been thought advisable, on various grounds, to adopt the new title of CANADIAN CHURCHMAN as somewhat more descriptive of the aim of the paper.

The standard which we have here set up, the course which we have proposed to ourselves, may seem ambitious; but we believe it to be attainable to a reasonable extent, if we shall be able to secure the cooperation of our fellow Churchmen—above all, if we shall seek and obtain the blessing of God upon our labours and efforts. Paul may plant and Apollos may water; but it is God that giveth the increase. May His blessing not be withheld from those who seek to serve His Church.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS AND READERS.

We have said that we are happy in the possession of a number of contributors to our paper, by whose help we hope to make it second to no publication of the kind in the Anglican Communion. But there is a class of persons who are no less important to us than our literary staff. We refer, of course, to those who bring us the sinews of war. The conductors and managers of the CANADIAN CHURCHMAN are as free, they trust, from self-interested motives as their neighbours; but no paper can be carried on at a loss; no paper can live long unless it can be made a financial success. We do not pretend that this paper can be carried on upon mere transcendental principles.

As, therefore, we propose to do the very best that we can for our readers, so we venture to express the hope that they will do what they can for us, and we will take the liberty of telling them what they can do.

1. In the first place, they can make a point of paying their own subscriptions punctually in advance. The price of the CANADIAN CHURCHMAN is two dollars a year. If paid in advance, it is one dollar. When our subscribers consider what they get in the paper, they will not complain that we adhere to our terms, as we are, in fact, compelled to do. If we could give the paper for nothing, we would. As we cannot do this, we give it on the most liberal terms possible.

2. Another thing which our friends can do for us is to help to increase the number of our subscribers. If the paper is a good one, as we mean to try to make it, then it deserves the widest possible circulation; and this can be got only by those who appreciate its value recommending it to their neighbours. They will thus help us in many ways. They will bring us subscriptions, they will diffuse the contents of the paper, and they will, indirectly, bring us fresh advertisements. The very large number of high-class advertisements which have appeared in the Dominion Churchman have been owing to its wide circulation. We hope that in both respects the CANADIAN CHURCHMAN may outstrip its parent.

There are other ways in which our friends can help us which will naturally occur to them. But as some of these have been mentioned in our first