

The Presbyterian

A MISSIONARY AND RELIGIOUS RECORD

OF THE



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

CONDUCTED BY A COMMITTEE OF THE LAY ASSOCIATION.

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No. 12, December, 1858.

VOLUME XI.

Price 2s. 6d. per annum in advance.

The Presbyterian.

"THE PRESBYTERIAN."

This number closes another volume—Vol. XI—of *The Presbyterian*. During the past year we have sometimes been hard pressed for time, which, if more at our command, would have been cheerfully devoted to the duties of Editorship. We have had but few to assist in contributing original matter. We have sometimes been grieved at the remissness of parties in a position, with little trouble, to oblige us, when we have found them neglecting to send us intelligence, or leaving us to gather it from secular newspapers or other indirect sources, often at a very late hour before publication. Several complaints have reached us. It is easy to grumble at the arrangement of the articles or their non-insertion in the number in which they are expected to appear; but it is not so easy to get our friends to learn the importance of having their communications in our hands early in the month, or to understand the difficulty of even a trifling rearrangement after the whole has been all but put into press. We are also occasionally favored with letters from parties, hundreds of miles away, telling us, with respect to some event that has happened at their doors months before, that we have taken no notice of it. To such we say,

Do not take it for granted that we are in a position to know all that is transpiring of interest to the Church throughout the length and breadth of Canada—do not rely upon others informing us, but communicate with us yourselves. Two or three notices from different individuals of the same matter cannot do any possible harm. One may supply particulars and suggest ideas which another omits, and by putting all in one article we may make our notices more complete and interesting. Now and again, complaints have been forwarded of irregularities in the receipt of our periodical. Notwithstanding the greatest care, mistakes of this kind will occur; but we again assure our readers that, when these are made known to us, every effort is made to have them rectified. On the other hand, from many quarters we have received encouragement which we value, and which, together with the satisfaction that we are doing some service to the Church, tends to lighten our labours and stimulate our exertions. One of the best assurances we can have that our good intentions and humble endeavors are appreciated is, we find, the receipt from our friends of goodly lists of subscribers. In this department every member of the Church might materially assist us. Were our readers to forward their subscriptions regularly, they are sufficiently numerous to save all anxiety

about pecuniary obligations. This, we think, is at the very least our due, since our aim is to benefit others, we having our reward in the profit which cometh from doing good. We confess, however, that our ambition extends beyond security against loss. We think it quite legitimate to look for a surplus revenue to be devoted to the other objects of the Lay Association.

To all who have in any way strengthened our hands and encouraged our hearts we return our sincere thanks, and earnestly bespeak a continuance of their good offices, hoping that at the end of another year we shall be able to announce a considerable increase both of literary contributors and good paying subscribers.

STUDENTS FROM SCOTLAND.

We are gratified by hearing that the Rev. Donald McDonald, of Lochiel, has not been forgetful during his recent visit to Scotland of the commission given him by the Synod to seek out students for Queen's College. He has succeeded in bringing two—Mr. McDonald from South Uist, and Mr. Cameron from Lochaber, and they are now pursuing their studies at Kingston. We understand that many would come were the Church to undertake the responsibility of inviting them.