

if no agent is convenient, then the amount may be sent in small bills, or postage stamps, or by post-office order, which can, we understand, be got now for small sums like that, for two or three cents. A better plan still would be for each subscriber to secure one new subscriber and send one dollar, for which sum the *CHRISTIAN MONTHLY* would be sent for the half year to two subscribers.

While writing of new subscribers, we are tempted to give here a few words from the experience of Dr. Andrew Thomson, of Edinburgh, while engaged in establishing an Evangelical Magazine, the *Christian Instructor*, under discouraging circumstances :

"This work," he says, writing to a friend, Dr. Burns, then of Paisley, "of the principles of which I hope you approve, has succeeded tolerably well considering the circumstances of the country at the present time, and the opposition we have met with from the great bulk of our moderate brethren. But greater exertion and patronage are still necessary to render its circulation sufficiently extensive. I beg, therefore, to solicit your kind and active assistance. . . . Your assistance may be given in two ways : First, by sending us contributions from your own pen ; and secondly, by procuring subscribers to the magazine."

His friend, it seems, acted as some of our friends have done,—he sent him a contribution from his pen and a list of new subscribers, and Dr. Thomson thus replies :

"I return you many thanks for your kind exertions in behalf of the *Christian Instructor*. I am gratified by the favourable opinion which you entertain of the work in general. . . . Nor must I forget to acknowledge the very acceptable communications which you have sent for insertion. This is the very way in which I wish to be treated by my friends. It is the way, however, in which I am treated by

"very few. One says, 'I like your publication very well and shall recommend it,' but he never procures one subscriber. Another says, 'Your magazine does not come up to my ideas of such a work,' and that is just what he would say though the work were absolutely perfect. A third says, 'The *Instructor* is tolerably good, but then it has faults which must counteract its success ;' and he very kindly leaves us to perish without pointing out these faults, or telling us how they might be remedied. And a fourth exclaims most valiantly, 'Go on and prosper, only get better communications and more of them ;' but never lifts his pen to give me the least assistance in one way or another. It gives me real pleasure to find that you have avoided all these errors, and that you are a substantial, acute and honest friend to the *Instructor*."

A word to the wise is enough. If such a man as Dr. Thomson, with such eminent writers as he gathered around him, had such difficulties in establishing the *Christian Instructor*, (which afterwards proved so influential in promoting the revival of evangelical religion), need we wonder that in a new country like Canada, there should at the outset be need of hard and self-denying work on the part of agents, contributors and editors, in establishing THE *CHRISTIAN MONTHLY*, which, under the guidance of God, might become yet, in abler hands than ours, a powerful promoter of evangelical religion in Canada, and an aid towards more unity of action on questions of common interest among the various denominations. Let us therefore arise up and build, and "the God of heaven he will prosper us."

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR MRS. KENNEDY AND FAMILY.

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