

way," if you will give it a fair chance. Error will fall like Dagon before the ark, if permitted to be put in contrast with truth. And though such a course should, for a time, agitate the public mind, when the stormy passions subside, like as the torrent which has dashed from rock to rock, falls purer and more tranquil into the basin below than the stagnant pool, so will the mind, after having examined all the conflicting systems, find a sure and calm repose in full assurance of the truth of God.

That a publication, pursuing the course above described, is called for in these provinces, no lover of truth will question. To you, then, friends, as such we appeal for countenance and support. Just in proportion as we get a candid hearing, are we successful in the cause we plead. It should then be the anxious desire of every friend to this publication to circulate it far and wide. It will correct errors and disabuse the public mind in relation to the sentiments we plead. We ask, nay, solicit your attention one year more; give us a candid hearing, and if you approve of the cause, you will endeavor to extend the knowledge of it among your friends and fellow citizens.

When this work commenced, we purposed writing but little ourself; but without really expecting it, we find ourself engaged in writing the greater part. This we should gladly avoid, could we select articles adapted to the times and circumstances which frequently surround us. We say, this we should gladly avoid, for it is a real task for us to write, particularly when we have not an opportunity, in consequence of numerous calls and duties, to sit more than three hours at a time at any employment. This fact will explain one cause why our articles are so diffuse. At first our articles were written twice, but duties called, and soon we gave them to the printer at first hand; and the greater part of all we wrote for the last volume, the first pages were in the press before the last were written. You may ask what has this to do with the publication! We answer, double our subscription list with *good* subscribers, and then we will be more careful, and give you more matter, in a better style and smaller compass. At present, instead of receiving a salary for our labors, we have spent at least half of our time getting subscribers, collecting money, &c., and have not received one pound for our services!

All, therefore, that we can promise you for the future is, that we will do the best we can. We have come so far short of taking up the gems in our last year's prospectus, that we must let it stand for the present. Most of the subjects have been glanced at; but none perfected. We will, however, merely add, that in addition to the subjects before you in the first volume, we shall devote a few pages of several numbers to a series of letters to mothers on the government of their children. On the whole we will remark—THE CHRISTIAN shall be what its name imports; *as it would that others should do unto it, so it will do unto them.* It shall plead for the truth—the whole truth, and nothing at the truth; so far as it is connected with the present and future happiness of the human family.

With these promises, we commit the *Christian* to your patronage