

as from curiosity, &c., people would be apt to call him in; but that the tug of war for him lay in the second year, when novelty had worn off and his strong and weak points had been discovered. "If you live through the second year then you have gained the day," was the shrewd conclusion of a long experience. Even so. It is the second year that is the trying year for preachers, doctors and magazines. Let subscribers and those kind friends to whom we are so much indebted for the past year take a note of this, and let them not relax their efforts but rather increase them for our second year, beginning with July. If the 1,300 subscribers whose time expires with this present month remit their subscriptions for a second year cheerfully and promptly, then will our undertaking be beyond much peril. It will, indeed, become a strong and useful periodical, yielding something to Mrs. Kennedy and family, and capable, as it expands, of doing good service as an evangelical magazine, at a time when a publication like the *London Christian* is needed in Canada. If, however, people neglect, or forget or refuse, to renew their subscription, on them must lie the responsibility of discouraging this undertaking, and of weakening the hands of those who are doing their best to sustain it. It is not, therefore, surely too much to ask Christians of the various evangelical churches, and especially ministers of the Gospel, to aid in retaining to us our old subscribers, and in getting for us new additions to our list. It is not because of what our periodical is at present that we plead for it, but what it might become if duly encouraged. We would like to see on the Editor's table, not only all the English magazines but the evangelical monthlies of France, Germany and Italy. As soon as we find that the Christian public are ready to encourage us, arrangements will be made to obtain these and also to enlarge the staff of writers, as well as to secure fuller and more frequent notices of new

books. We now leave the matter under the disposal of our blessed Master, and in the hands of His people, and are willing to abide by his and their decision. Should that decision be to give up the publication, after another year, then the Editor will welcome release from harness: but if, on the other hand, the verdict is to go on, then will the work be continued with fresh courage.

### IS EDINBURGH FROM THIS AWAKENING TO GO FORWARD OR BACKWARD?

"Let us wait, without saying much, until a summer and a winter has passed over the soul." That was the remark with which a godly and eminent divine was in the habit of meeting the sanguine reports of his friends in regard to cases of hopeful conversion. Age and experience had taught him caution in numbering converts and in concluding that every soul *awakened* was necessarily a soul *converted*. He knew from the teachings of the Word of God and from what he had seen in his long, and remarkably blessed ministry, that a season of reaction comes, very often, after a season of excitement, and that the tree cannot be counted as one of the Lord's planting until, after its first winter, it again shoots forth into deeper roots, and life more vigorous than the life of its first summer.

It was lately summer with the newly awakened churches of Edinburgh: "the winter is past, the rain is over and gone, the flowers appear on the earth, the time of the singing of birds has come," was their song, when the earth was in mid-winter, for several weeks at the beginning of this year. They are now, while the earth is putting on its summer, entering on *their* winter. The novelty has worn away from their meetings; strangers that came crowding from other places have ceased their coming and going; and the American