

# THE CANADIAN UNITED PRESBYTERIAN MAGAZINE.

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## Miscellaneous Articles.

### SOME SEASONABLE HINTS.

This Magazine has now entered upon the fourth year of its course, a fact for which there is great reason to thank God and take courage. It would be well if the Magazine, as it is prolonged, should become more and more useful, by an extending circulation, for which there is ample room; by being more perused and considered by those who receive it: and by increasing endeavors on the part of those who carry it on, to enrich its pages and to make it a great benefit. In the short address appended to the December number it is stated that the object of the Magazine is "to advance the peace and prosperity of the church." This should be the desire not only of the editor, but of every one of her ministers and members. It is also stated, and well deserves to be again brought under notice: "there is abundant need for every legitimate appliance for augmenting the vitality, and harmony, and energy of our body. Could a denomination, holding such principles as ours, be aroused from its lethargy, what deliverances might it work, and what a blessing might it be in the land! What nobler ambition should any right hearted man propose to himself than to be a worker with God in so high and holy a cause? 'Wilt Thou not revive us again, that the people may rejoice in Thee.'"

Serious charge that of lethargy. But the question is, Is it true? We fear it has in it too much truth. Will any man among us venture to affirm that as a body we are vigorously attempting to do all, or nearly all, we ought to do for the Divine glory and the good of souls? Will any one in the congregation to which he belongs, no matter which or where it is, maintain that said congregation is doing with its might what it findeth to do for Christ and His interests.

But the charge of lethargy does not lie against our church only. It applies to all existing churches, though not to all of them equally. Where is the church that is striving with sufficient zeal to obey the command of Christ, that His gospel should be preached unto every creature, both near and far off, and not merely within its own little precincts? Where is the church that can be pointed out as properly serving, by its general membership, to be "the salt of the earth," the moral conservatism of that part of mankind which is around it, and "the light of the world" within its own sphere of influence. Has not Christ too much cause for saying to the churches, at present, at large, "Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain that are ready to die,"—be up and doing? There is no occasion for any church for boasting, or glorying over others; but very much occasion for humility, and for prayer to God,