

### Eulogistic.

SIXTEEN YEARS AGO the writer accepted the appointment as editor of the *Presbyterian Record* from the General Assembly with serious misgivings as to his fitness for the position, and feeling that he had no claim to the distinguished honour. It was, indeed, no light task to undertake the oversight of a publication representing so many interests, and that should accommodate itself to such a variety of taste and opinion, not to say of criticism, also, as the new arrangement consequent on the union of the Churches necessarily involved. Had it not been for the assistance he received from his associate, Mr. Murray, of Halifax, he must have retired long ago. To that gentleman's experience as a journalist, his sound judgment, no less than his graceful pen, the readers of the RECORD owe more than they are aware of.

The retrospect of these eventful years furnishes thoughts for which no adequate expression can now be found. We are, however, devoutly thankful for whatever measure of success has attended our joint efforts. We feel grateful for the confidence reposed in us by the General Assembly from first to last: for the uniform courtesy and co-operation of the ministers and office-bearers of the Church: for the generous support we have received from the body of the people: and, especially, we acknowledge our obligations to those who have enriched the pages of the magazine by their literary contributions, and to a host of Agents whose gratuitous and self-denying services have been invaluable and have gained for the RECORD its present wide circulation.

It is pleasant to reflect that during our term of office the Church in whose service we have been engaged has been blessed with peace and prosperity: the number of her ministers and missionaries has greatly increased: her membership has doubled: her annual revenues for all purposes have risen from \$982,671 in 1876, to \$2,054,951 in 1891: she has added to the number of her Theological Colleges, and, very largely, to their equipment and efficiency: in every department of her work—at home and abroad—there has been manifest progress.

What a privilege we have enjoyed in becoming acquainted with so large a number

of honoured servants of the Lord, in our Church, and in other Churches also!—Venerable Fathers, like Dr. Topp of Toronto, Dr. Taylor of Montreal, Dr. Sedgwick of Musquodoboit, Dr. Brooke of Fredericton, Dr. James Bayne of Pictou, Mr. Christie of Yarmouth, Dr. Neill of Seymour, Dr. Bain of Perth, Mr. Roger of Peterboro; and younger ministers, among whom were Dr. MacGregor of Halifax, and Professor Mackerras of Kingston, with such elders as Senator Holmes, H. B. Webster, and John S. Maclean in the Maritime Provinces; James Court, Joseph Mackay, and Judge Torrance in Montreal; Hon. John MacMurrich in Toronto, and Lieut.-Governor Morris in Manitoba; these and many others who were active and influential members of the Church sixteen years ago have all passed away, but the memories associated with their names are treasured up as a precious legacy.

And now, the pain of parting with our present large constituency remains. It is with sentiments of sincere regret we relinquish a work that has had for us such fascinations. However imperfectly it has been done—and no one can be so sensible of its imperfections as we ourselves are—we can say in all sincerity we have endeavoured to make the RECORD answer the purpose it was designed to serve—that of promoting an intelligent interest in every department of the work of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, as well as in the spread of Christianity throughout the world. We have tried to divest ourselves of partiality. If we have given offence to any, we ask them to attribute it to error of judgment, and to accept our regrets.

In conclusion, we cordially bespeak for our friend and successor in office, the Rev. Ephraim Scott, a continuance of the favour and support that has been accorded to ourselves, feeling confident that he will profit by our mistakes, improve upon our methods, and, by the blessing of God, win fresh conquests for the RECORD and do grand work for the Master.

With best wishes for the welfare of our beloved Church, and all its members and office-bearers, we bid our readers, affectionately, FAREWELL.

JAMES CROIL, *Managing Editor*.  
Montreal 30th November, 1891.