

The Monthly Advocate.

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A WORD TO SUBSCRIBERS AND AGENTS.

By the good hand of our God upon us, we have completed one year of our journalistic labours. Looking back on the way by which we have been led, and the support received from christian friends of different denominations, and in different countries, we thank God and take courage. With no promise of assistance either pecuniary or literary—with scanty resources from which to draw our monthly supplies—and unpatronized by any of our many popular magazines already in circulation—and unpatronized by any ecclesiastical body—it was felt by ourselves and, no doubt, by others, that our enterprise was somewhat of a rash venture. It was with some misgivings that, twelve months ago, we launched our tiny craft on the sea of journalism, not, however, without some faint hope that, freighted with truth, and through the favour of our God who is wont to bless the feeblest efforts to advance His cause, it might live, and serve as an auxiliary to those moral forces, already in the field, which aim at the subjugation of the world to Christ. We are thankful to be able to record that our misgivings have been dispelled, and our hopes more than realized. Evidence has been forthcoming, from month to month, that the enterprise has been increasingly appreciated. Letters of commendation have reached us from distant regions; whilst the list of subscribers has increased beyond our most sanguine anticipations.

Whilst fully sensible of many imperfections in the discharge of our editorial duties, we are conscious that, from the commencement, we have been actuated by an honest purpose to exemplify the adopted scriptural motto of the *Advocate*—"Speaking the truth in love." Whilst we have uncompromizingly endeavoured to exhibit and defend the truth, according to the measure of our knowledge and convictions, we have uniformly endeavoured to cultivate and manifest a spirit of christian kindness and courtesy to those who may differ most widely from us. The same spirit which has characterized the *Advocate* in the past, will, it is hoped, be adhered to in the future; whilst the grand aim will be "that God, in all things, may be glorified, through Jesus Christ."

With gratitude to God, and thankfulness to our numerous friends and supporters, we close the first year of our editorial labours. Encouraged by past experience, and relying on the continued favor and blessing of Him whose we are, whom we serve, and to whom we desire to commit our way, we shall enter upon the second year of our journalism with a large measure of joyful hope. To our numerous agents and subscribers of all denominations, we look with confidence for their continued support, and aid in the circulation of the magazine, assuring them that our best efforts will be put forth to make it still more worthy of their patronage, as the *Advocate* of "whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report." "To God only wise, be glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen."