

## The Missionary and S. S. Record.

MONTREAL, DECEMBER, 1853.

### Explanatory of our Position.

Some of our correspondents have instituted comparisons between the *Record* and other publications of a similar character, issued by benevolent associations in the United States. It is to the honor of that country that so many excellent publications are sustained, and even widely circulated. The Societies are enabled to reduce the price, because of the quantity taken. But, after all, to Canadian readers, they do not give, for 20 cents, as much reading matter as we do for that amount. There is one very useful monthly for children, issued from New York and Boston, at 10 cents, when 10 copies are taken—to this 3 cents must be added for American postage, and 10 cents for Canadian postage, making 23 cents. Others come much higher to Canada subscribers, with very little, if any more reading, than is contained in the *Record*. To this we must add that a good deal of what we find in American papers is not suited to our free institutions; and, in many, the most widely circulated, there are political allusions and references not at all likely to profit our young people. We state these views not invidiously. American editors may be supposed to know what suits their own market, but we also think we know what will be useful in Canada. As to cost or outlay, give to the *Record* a circulation of 20,000 or 30,000, and we shall then either reduce the price, or increase the quantity of matter given. The *Record* is now

1s. per annum, without postage. Dear reader, send in your name, or send forward your list.

### The Close of the Year.

Although a month must elapse between the time of our writing and the end of the year, we cannot allow the last number of the current volume to go to press without a few special words to our readers in general, and a few remarks to some classes in particular. To all, the rapid flight of time is a subject of serious import. The thing itself is God's gift, as life, the life of man proceeds from the eternal Author of all that is. But the "time is short"—the year rolls round—we are traveling to the grave. At such a time as this, we ought surely to ask ourselves whether the past year has been well spent. Examination of ourselves is a duty—and, as the merchant should carefully inspect his books that he may know the condition of his affairs, so should we inspect our hearts, and take a retrospective view of our course. There will be found many things over which we may mourn and lament—perhaps a painful consciousness of defectiveness in the performance of our best deeds may fill the heart; and, for every sin, as for all sinners, there is no pardon but through the merits of Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. To this Savior, let us fly for refuge, and pray for grace to keep us from the power of evil and temptation.

We earnestly solicit the attention of our readers to the cause of Missions and Sabbath Schools. Perhaps you