

ested in the cause he pleads,—else his appointment virtually becomes a nullity.

3rd. No Editor should be his own agent, or at least not his own agent exclusively.

4th. A religious Editor, especially, since engaged in a work which emphatically belongs to every good man as he has ability, should have the most active sympathy of all, not only to keep him at his post, but to render his labours extensively useful. Counsels, prayers, means, letters, essays, new readers, come under this head.

It will be seen by the following Circular that a plan is now proposed, which, if executed with spirit and electric resolution, will operate as a resurrection and give vigour and enduring power to this paper. Unity of effort, and activity of effort, are the two things most in demand. These we must have, or be frozen in the valleys that lie on the other side of "Greenland's icy mountains." Did the continuance and prosperity of this work depend solely or chiefly upon the perseverance, patience, and enterprize of a single person, I have enough personal charity to say that it would not only live, but give life, and that abundantly. But it calls for more than single-handed perseverance. Co-operation, in some form, is indispensable. A periodical may exist for a year or two by the extra interest and self-sacrifice of a very few; but death will finally be pronounced upon it unless heartily received and actively assisted by its leading readers. Hence we find new periodicals springing into existence—living a sickly and briefly troublesome life—passing speedily into the grave, seized with a fatal fit of asthma, or smit with the quick consumption. Better for us all to become acquainted with the history of periodicals, religious as well as literary and political, and we shall then know precisely where we are, and where we may expect to be, according to all reasonable or human reckoning.

The *Witness* is itself among the proofs of what is here affirmed. Among the brethren where the proposition was first submitted that I should get up a religious paper, there were three members who gave twenty dollars each for the first year. This could not continue. No man could expect it. Nor could it be rationally expected that an editor would continue to devote time and perform labour equal in value annually to some fifteen or twenty times that sum, and part of his own means besides, for the purpose of continuing a work in which all are considered to be equally interested. It is true that the hope of glory and immortality is a reliable promissory reward; available at the second appearing of the Saviour, but it must be remembered that bills