

THE MARITIME PRESBYTERIAN

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THE END.

This number closes our eleventh volume, and closes, so far as the present issuing of it is concerned, the work of the MARITIME PRESBYTERIAN.

The story of its birth is as follows:—I was sitting in my study one night about eleven years ago. Several of the young people had canvassed the congregation for subscribers to the *Presbyterian Record*. Their reports had just been handed in. I was looking over them, when the thought came, "The church is very large, the Record is small, is there any way in which I can supplement it? Would it be possible to publish a small magazine, giving missionary letters that now never see the light, and at the same time supplying other good reading matter as it may be able." The thought soon took shape in the MARITIME. Unworthy in itself it was kindly received and its welcome has never grown less.

During the eleven years of its existence it has scattered abroad nearly 20,000,000 of pages of reading matter, all of which was, so far as was possible, carefully selected. The seed has been widely sown. What the harvest will be, no one can know. It is not too much to hope that the scattered pages may have in some small measure brought comfort, guidance, stimulus to many hearts and lives.

The profits of the paper were given to Missions. The low price and the limited circulation made these profits necessarily very small. Five hundred dollars in all have been sent to the Foreign Mission Fund, and when all accounts are collected there will be more forthcoming. How much cannot be definitely stated.

In the Providence of God the writer has

been appointed by the General Assembly to take charge of *The Presbyterian Record*, and the acceptance of the appointment practically necessitates his giving up the MARITIME. Whether any other will take it up and carry it on, he cannot tell. All that remains now to do is to thank the many friends who have so kindly and in varied ways aided in the work. To four parties are there due special thanks:

1. To brother ministers for encouragement and aid.

2. To the agents, who so faithfully and patiently, year after year, aided in its circulation, and without whom it could not have been successful.

3. To the missionaries, who supplied its columns with so much of interesting reading, and at the same time brought the home church into closer touch with the Foreign Field.

4. And chiefly, for it has never been done in these columns before, are thanks due to my own beloved congregation, who bore so patiently with me in doing this outside work for the common Master. My constant aim and effort was to allow no work of the congregation to go undone, no interest belonging to it to suffer, to give the MARITIME the second place, and to supply the extra demand, by harder and more constant work, but it is not always easy for a congregation to see that such is the case, and now that it is over, it is not out of place to thank them in this way, on my own behalf and on behalf of the readers of the MARITIME for their kindly forbearance to the end.

And now, added to the many "good byes" which have come so recently in severing so many tender ties, turning from loved work amid familiar scenes, to undertake another