

and deacons of the Churches can render important service;—one in which they may reasonably be expected to take the lead. Without much labour new subscribers may be secured in every church and neighbourhood; and were a general effort put forth, within the next three months, the circulation might be largely increased. We have been gratified with additions to our list from the Atlantic Provinces, and hope for a greatly increased circulation in these regions. When it is remembered that the Proprietors with the guarantee of several others, are responsible for any loss that may arise, while they renew the assurance that the profits will be devoted to the improvement of the magazine; it is evidently not without reasonable ground they anticipate a general and hearty support.

The Business arrangement for the past year is to be continued, and every exertion will be used to secure dispatch and correctness in the monthly issues.

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#### RETURN OF REV. W. F. CLARKE.

Another chapter of the history of the British Columbian Mission is laid before our readers in our present number; a chapter full of painful incident. The bright hopes we cherished a year ago are obscured; a melancholy feeling can hardly be repressed, in view of the present aspect of an undertaking which deeply interested the Canadian churches, and gave birth to a development of missionary feeling among them, expansive and disinterested, as embracing the regions beyond. Though, in our feebleness, little can be attempted beyond the faithful and thorough culture of our own peculiar field in the high and godlike enterprise of missions, yet there is a blessedness in actions which are stamped with Christian feeling for unknown and distant objects. The catholicity of the true missionary feeling, that the field is the world, requires a co-ordinate growth, with the speciality of effort in obeying the injunction, "beginning in Jerusalem." This, then, we joyously believed, had been found in the mission of which we now write. Just as we were anticipating an acknowledgment of the receipt of the Canadian remittance for the house of worship erected by Rev. W. F. Clarke, the brethren in Toronto were startled by the personal reappearance of that brother himself, and his family. All our readers will expect an explanation of this most unexpected turn of affairs, and we have felt it due to Mr. Clarke that he should make that explanation in his own way, which he has done by publishing the correspondence between himself and the Colonial Missionary Society. In addition to this, will be found the Society's second deliverance on the subject, communicated by Rev. Dr. Wilkes. We need hardly say that we publish these documents as matters of information simply, and shall gladly give publicity to the fullest statement which the Society may be disposed to make on the question. It is most painful to us to write on this melancholy episode in colonial missions. In common with our brethren throughout Canada, we cherish every sentiment of honour and gratitude towards the Society which has been the nursing mother of the Congregational churches in this colony. On the other hand, we need not repeat what has so often been said here, concerning Mr. Clarke's claims on our confidence and sympathy.