

THE
MONTHLY RECORD

OF THE
Church of Scotland

IN NOVA SCOTIA AND THE ADJOINING PROVINCES.

JANUARY, 1859.

In presenting the *Monthly Record* to its readers, in a new form, and under new superintendence, a few words of explanation are deemed needful. The *Record*, as most of its readers know, was started in the beginning of the year 1855, with the professed object of spreading among our people information on religious subjects, and on the state and prospects of our Church. A Committee of gentlemen in Halifax generously volunteered to manage the temporal affairs of the periodical, while the editorial department was entrusted to the Rev. Messrs. Martin and Sprott. Since Mr. Sprott's departure, Mr. Martin has persevered with the editorial management of the periodical. Our Church is deeply indebted to the superintendent of Missions, for the time and trouble which he has, after a long life spent in her service, devoted to this enterprise, and to the gentlemen in Halifax, who, amid the urgent calls of business, have given a portion of their time, and a considerable portion of their worldly substance to the promotion of this pious undertaking.

During the last few years, the *Record* has enjoyed a large circulation, and has, we trust, been the means of effecting much good. It seems however, that, from various causes, it is not self-sustaining. The Secretary in consequence made known to the Synod during its last session, the intention of the Committee of Management to discontinue it at the close of the present year. The Synod, fully alive to the

importance of maintaining a Church Magazine, appointed a Committee, investing them with authority to deal with the matter. The Committee in question, consisting of certain members of Synod and the leading office-bearers of the Lay-Association, have undertaken the responsibility of continuing the publication of the *Monthly Record*.

In forwarding the work thus falling upon the Committee, every effort will be made to render the *Record* serviceable to the members of our beloved church and to the interests of our most holy religion. As the members of our church may be expected to take a peculiar interest in her efforts at home and abroad, for the spread of religion among the darkened masses of mankind, and for strengthening the hold, which those noble principles of doctrine, discipline and church government, set forth by her at the time of the blessed reformation, have acquired in the hearts of her people, a due prominence will be given in this periodical to those subjects. It is thought, that, by this course, a real service will be rendered not only to the Church of Scotland, but to the cause of Christian charity towards the whole Church of Christ, consisting of all those who profess the true religion throughout the world. As the most enlightened are ever the most charitable, and the most ignorant, in like manner, the most bigoted, it is conceived that by this course we are serving the interests of a loving Christianity; and we believe that he who remains