

the *Record*, we would find ourselves, at the end of the year, in a favorable position.

(c) The various Ministers, in their different congregations throughout the Church. We believe they have already done all they could do, and merely mention them "to stir up their minds by way of remembrance," to remind them that the *Record* has commenced another year of its history—that new subscribers are wanted, and that we must lose no time in endeavoring to procure them, so that their names may be given in before the next issue of the *Monthly Record*.

(d) To our Kirk-sessions and our Elders individually. From their position and influence in the various congregations, they can do much in this matter. Coming in daily contact with their neighbors, and members of the flock over which they are placed—anxious as they are that "the cords of our Zion should be lengthened and her stakes strengthened," what more natural or proper than that they should ask of each of those neighbors and friends, "Do you take the *Record*?" and if the answer be "No," that they should urge upon them the propriety of giving in their names to the nearest Agent, and immediately order a copy. Should each of our Elders adopt this plan, the circulation of the *Record* would soon become greatly enlarged.

(e) The heads of families. The *Record* should, if possible, be in every family connected with our Church. The children of the family ought to become acquainted with our schemes, and know generally what their Church is doing, and what are her aims and aspirations. In this way they would form an early attachment to their Church—an attachment that would "grow with their growth, and strengthen with their strength." Even as an Educator in any family, the *Record* is well worth more than the money it costs. It is said that a family newspaper is worth, to the children of the family, more than several months teaching. We certainly believe such to be the case. Yet how few papers can be placed in the hands of children with the same degree of confidence as the *Monthly Record*? We feel confident that, even already, in this respect, it has done much good. It lies on the table and about the rooms. It is taken up during an idle hour. Every No. contains a sermon and much useful reading, suitable alike for the young and for the old. It were certainly well if the *Record* could form a portion of the reading matter of every family within the Church.

What it shall be in the Future, we repeat, must depend upon its friends. We have it in our power to make it something better than it has been in the past, or to allow it to become extinct. All that is necessary to promote its further usefulness, as well as maintain it in actual existence, are—*punctual payments and an increased circulation*. And sure we are that all its friends will combine in doing what they can to promote both.

During the year upon which we have entered, it is hoped that the *Record* may prove unusually interesting. The finding of the Committee, published in the December No., will shew that any controversy of a personal nature shall, in future, be excluded, and it is hoped that the whole business of the *Record* shall be conducted in such a manner as to give satisfaction to its readers and friends. It is probable that at next meeting of Synod its title may be changed, so as to give it a wider and more general character, and make it in name, what it is intended to be in reality, the organ of our Church in New Brunswick as well as in Nova Scotia. We earnestly appeal to the many friends of the *Record* throughout the Church, and confidently rest its prosperity upon their cordial support—a support which we feel assured shall not be withheld. S. M. C.

The Manse, W. B. E. R.

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### The British and Foreign Bible Society

OUR attention has recently been called to the eminent claims of the above Society, by the visit of our Provincial Agent, Mr. Alex. Russell, to this district; and, as many of our people may be called upon at an early day to give their support to this time-honored and much-blessed institution, a few remarks upon it may not be unseasonable. It is an institution that needs not to be besprinkled with empty eulogiums. To praise the British and Foreign Bible Society would be as idle as to paint the diamond or to scent the rose. There are things in the world whose transcendent excellence is so apparent and so universally admitted, that to praise them is to bring their merit in question—to read history backwards, and to insult both them and the intelligence of the reader. The blessing of God and the favor of men have, during sixty years, combined to establish this society in our minds, as next to the Church of God—the noblest that has ever submitted its claims to the judgment of mankind.

The grand principle of this society—the circulation of the Scriptures alone—of the Scriptures unaccompanied by a single human word, note or comment—is a noble maxim, the full importance of which may not be apparent even to those who give it a general assent. That it is proper to circulate the Scriptures to any extent, in this simplest form, is clearly deducible from the claims of an inspired book. It is a corollary from the doctrine of inspiration. If the Bible be God's message to man, then it is fit and proper to be circulated far and wide, in its simple form. If we held the neologian notion, maintained by one English Bishop and by several English essayists, that part of what claims to be divine is human, and even erroneous; then, as we must decide between the