

THE MAGAZINE.

The last number for another year, reminds us of the agreeable duty of making our acknowledgments to our readers and friends for the kindness they have shewn us, and the support they have afforded us. It is still matter of regret that we have so few Contributors to thank; but our gratitude to those we have—a considerable proportion of them on the other side of the Atlantic—is most cordially tendered, and a continuation of their favours earnestly solicited. To our subscribers we feel under deep obligations, and trust that the relation between us will be kindly prolonged. We owe most of all to those who have exerted themselves to promote our circulation, and we fondly hope that, in the degree of success which has attended their efforts, they have, in some measure, received their reward. The object at which they undoubtedly aim, we are conscious to ourselves, is our own, and is the only consideration which induced us to commence, and still excites us to prosecute, our labours, namely—the peace and prosperity of the Church. If the Magazine be at all fitted to promote so important a purpose, the end might be gained to a far greater extent, by a more wide and general circulation. On this point we speak quite disinterestedly. Our pecuniary returns meet expenditure; and the idea of profit never once entered the mind of the projectors. At the same time, it would be gratifying to us if the friends of the Church should see it to be their duty to enlarge, as they very easily might, the sphere which, for purposes of usefulness to the cause of Christ and his people, we are anxious to occupy. The beginning of the year is obviously the time when such an attempt might be most advantageously made.

In a concluding address last year, we referred to the diminishing probability of our being able to effect a union with any other denomination of Christians, and adverted to the importance of sustaining the Magazine as a bond of union among ourselves, and a means of maintaining and extending the position we feel ourselves bound in conscience to occupy. Many flatter themselves that the prospects of union are brightening. We should be glad to believe it. But be that as it may, there is abundant need for every legitimate appliance for augmenting the vitality, and harmony, and energy of our body. Could a denomination holding such principles as ours be but roused from its lethargy, what deliverances might it work, and what a blessing might it be, in the land! What nobler ambition could any right-hearted man propose to himself than to be a worker together with God in so high and holy a cause? Wilt thou not revive us again, that thy people may rejoice in thee?

We feel that we ought not to take leave of our readers, for the year, without solemnly reminding them of those reflections which the lapse of time is fitted to suggest, and exhorting them to those communings with their hearts and with God, which are called for, alike by the recollections of the past, and the anticipations of the future. Bless the Lord, O our souls, and forget not all his benefits. Have mercy upon us, O God, according to thy loving kindness; according to the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out our transgressions. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew right spirits within us. And may goodness and mercy follow us all our days, and may we dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.