

anxiously for the second number, announced to appear early in June. But June, July, August and September passed away without any signs of the *Quarterly*, and it was not until after the middle of October that the June number came to hand. To be sure it was worth waiting for, but contributors must have been annoyed beyond measure. Imagine an article on the Behring Sea Question and another on the Equal Rights Movement, written in May, from a May standpoint and meant to be read early in June, lagging so many months behind public opinion! Professor MacMechan's article on recent Tennyson literature is still of interest. But, if the *Quarterly* were not already dead, such treatment of contributors and subscribers would certainly kill it. We regret very much the blundering that made a very hopeful and commendable literary enterprise a failure. It has injured the prospects of magazine-making in Canada far beyond any good the published numbers have done. But experience teaches.

With the present number the MONTHLY opens its thirteenth volume. We are very thankful for life preserved and service rendered in the midst of so much literary disease and death. We take it that the public thinks this magazine deserves to live, and inspired with this confidence we step out into a new year, tremblingly, indeed, but full of hope. We are not unmindful of the responsibility resting upon us not only to the institutions whose servants we are but to the Church and the country. The many kind expressions of congratulation and confidence, sometimes spoken, sometimes written, sometimes from friends, sometimes from strangers, and often from readers beyond the seas, help us to take up a burden that is not always light and face difficulties that are not always surmountable. These friendships between editors and readers, because personal acquaintance is often impossible, are among the strongest in life. They are ideal and spared the strain of real experience. And so we send our messenger out month by month to a thousand friends whose faces we never see but whose wishes and wants we always consider.

Do you ask about the future? It is bright. With your sympathy and help we will make the MONTHLY superior in every respect to anything yet accomplished. The December number will be unusually strong. It will contain, among others, two articles that will be read and discussed during the rest of the year; one by Professor Campbell, of Montreal, the other by Dr. Parsons, of Toronto. Dr. Campbell has a way of saying things that stimulate thought and debate, and his article is full of points. Dr. Proudfoot, taking for his text Dr. Behrend's "Philosophy of Preaching," will deal with certain important fundamental principles in preaching. Besides these there will be others of great merit. You see our cruise of oil and barrel of meal show no signs of failing.