

## INTRODUCTORY.

IN commencing the publication of THE CHURCH MAGAZINE, it seems right and necessary that a few words should be said in explanation both of its objects, and of the principles upon which it will be conducted.

It has long been felt that, in New Brunswick, the members of the Church of England required a periodical which, while conveying to them in a permanent form the ecclesiastical news of their own diocese, might at the same time record intelligence of the other Colonial Churches, of mission work among the heathen, and of the Mother Church at home. The present magazine is designed to supply this want.

In the present day there is abroad a great spirit of literary and scientific inquiry; and the researches to which this spirit has led have been applied both to the dogmatic articles of the Christian faith and to the Holy Scriptures. As these matters are frequently misunderstood, and sometimes misrepresented, it will be one object of this publication to place subjects of inquiry and thought before its readers in a reverent and religious spirit.

It will also be the endeavour of this magazine to notice Biblical difficulties with a view to their solution; to give clear statements of the great articles of the faith; to put forward explanations of the ordinary services of the Church, of the liturgy, and of the ritual, to promote a due regard to the solemn celebration of divine worship, to help the improvement of Church music; and to discuss matters affecting the diocese at large, such, for example, as endowment—in short, by every lawful means to assist in presenting the system of the Church in an intelligible aspect, that those who belong to our communion may be fully able to realize its beauty.

The principles upon which this task will be attempted are those of earnest and loyal attachment to the Church of England. No narrow party views will appear in this publication, but its tone, it is hoped, will be that which pervades the whole authoritative teaching of the Church. Less than this would not suffice—more is unnecessary.

As in all things men ought to be open and straightforward, it may be as well to state here that, for the present, this magazine will be edited by the Rev. J. Pearson, and for the general contents the editor will hold himself responsible. He respectfully invites both clergy and laity to assist him, and for such assistance he will be truly thankful. Short original articles, or suitable selections, will be gladly received. He also invites brief correspondence upon interesting subjects, stipulating only that in every case kind and generous language be used, and that where any *person* may necessarily be referred to, whether by name or otherwise, the author shall add his own signature to the communication. This magazine must never become the vehicle of anonymous slander and uncharitable attacks, as unfortunately is sometimes the case with so-called religious publications.

By the kindness and good-will of our fellow-Churchmen the magazine starts with a sufficient number of subscribers to render it self-supporting. It is hoped the list may be increased. If so, whatever surplus may arise will be devoted to the Diocesan Church Society, or some other like object, under the direction of his lordship the Bishop.

Lastly, the kind forbearance of all is asked for. It will necessarily take a little time to get everything into working order. It is hoped that allowance