

THE
CHRISTIAN BANNER.

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God."
"This is love, that we walk after his commandments."

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NEW YEAR'S SALUTE.

On the opening of a new year, as we prepare to go forth again with fresh energy to preach and to plead under the only pure banner beneath the heavens—the banner of the Cross—we have more than a usual desire to salute with christian greeting the prominent friends of the Lord's work of reform who are living laborers in the great field of the world to sow the 'good seed of the kingdom,' which is the living word of the living God.

It is currently but erroneously supposed in various parts of these British Provinces and the United States, that the disciples are only a weak few, with a very slight and scattered quorum of public advocates. Quite true, the disciples are not so numerous as is desirable, and it is entirely too true that a whole army of pleaders and teachers is needed to supply the calls and exigencies of the times. Let it be said also, that even if there were as few disciples as Elijah thought there were true worshipers in his time, the principles of truth would still be the same, and the plea for the gospel of Christ, unadulterated and un-mixed, would be every way as reliable and valuable. Still, there is with some men a potent argument in numbers. We may therefore serve two purposes while greeting the beloved who are fellow workers in the affairs of the Christian government. We may stimulate and cultivate the pure pulsings of spiritual affection, and at the same time convince cotemporaries that the brotherhood of disciples is neither diminutive nor weak.

Editors, who are personally known, are entitled to salutation 'first of all.' We therefore very respectfully greet brethren A. Campbell, R. Richardson, A. W. Campbell, W. K. Pendleton, R. L. Coleman, W. W. Eaton, C. L. Loos, Dr. S. E. Sheppard, and ex-editor Burnet, all of whom have their dwelling place and the seat of their labors between the city of New York and the Queen of the West, Cincinnati. If the cause of reformation had no writers except these, the cause in America would be ably, discreetly, and zealously maintained. Brother Campbell has occupied the Writing-Chair some thirty five years. Friend Coleman