

PREFACE.

THE issue of the December number of THE GOSPEL MAGAZINE completes the one hundred and fifty-second volume of this, the oldest Evangelical monthly periodical. What cause for praise there is to our Covenant-keeping God, that He has enabled successive Editors, such as the Rev. A. M. Toplady, the Rev. Dr. Doudney, Mr. George Cowell, the Rev. James Ormiston, and others, to continue the distinctive testimony of this MAGAZINE since it was first established in the year 1766! We ourselves desire to bless the LORD for His sustaining grace and His guiding hand during the thirteen months of our Editorship. Many have been the letters of encouragement we have received from our numerous readers. We have felt it a great privilege to conduct the work of the MAGAZINE month by month. It has meant a good deal of care, labour, and thought, but GOD has made His grace to abound towards us, and we give Him the sole glory.

On behalf of the Trustees we warmly thank our many kind and esteemed fellow-labourers, as well as

those who have kindly contributed towards the GOSPEL MAGAZINE Fund.

The need of testimony to the precious doctrines of GOD'S rich, distinguishing, and sovereign grace, as against the errors of Arminianism, Sacerdotalism, and Rationalism, is as great as ever. Our earnest prayer is that we and all who contribute to the pages of this MAGAZINE may ever write in full accordance with the Scriptures of truth, to the glory of GOD'S Name, and to the comfort and edification of His beloved, redeemed, and regenerated people. "Brethren, pray for us." Without Him we can do nothing.

THOMAS HOUGHTON,
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