

but for a number of years, from no fault of my own, I have been deprived of that until lately, and have felt the deprivation to be exceedingly great. This is the third Sunday School Convention I have attended during this year, and I have to bear testimony to this, that every one of them has made me a better man, better fitted, I believe, for my work as a Christian minister, as a parent, as having anything whatever to do with Sunday School work in connection with my own church. I regret very much, sir, not having been able to attend all the sessions of this Convention. I was necessarily kept away by other and important official duties during the entire proceedings of the first day, and some parts of the other days; but I have felt it a very great honor, and a very great privilege to be brought in touch with some of the grandest men for work on this continent. I never listen to such words, coming from such men, and in such a spirit, without feeling that I am broadened out and made larger and better prepared for the responsibilities and duties that belong to life, and especially those connected with the Sunday School work. The Convention has been to me an exceedingly profitable one; and just while Mr. Reynolds was speaking about multiplying Sunday School Conventions, I was at that moment pondering in my own mind how it would be possible—and why it would not be possible to have similar Conventions. We could not expect them to be so large; but if we could only get a dozen schools in the immediate neighborhood in which we live to confer together about the best methods of carrying on the work, and stirring each other up to greater vigor and earnestness, I believe that these very small Conventions would be exceedingly profitable, and do a very great deal of good; and if I possibly can, I have it in my mind and heart to begin just that kind of work as soon as I can after I get home. I am very grateful for the privilege of having attended this Convention, and feel that it has done me personally a great deal of good. (Applause).

Mr. R. S. GOURLAY—*Mr. President and Friends*,—When a memorandum was passed to me a few moments ago that I was to speak for two minutes, and give my personal testimony as to the benefit of the Convention, I felt I really had but little to say. The Convention is one which I have not had the opportunity of attending in all its sessions. I have attended about half of them; and I think I would not be doing my duty now when I have come upon the platform, did I not say that its sessions have been of such a practical nature to me that they have set me to take stock of myself as a parent, to take stock of myself as a Sunday School teacher, to take stock of myself as a superintendent; and I have to confess that listening to the address of the evening sessions, that is about all I have heard, I have found when doing so that I am upon the side of the balance that does not go very far down; it goes up. I have come to the conclusion that as a result of this Convention, that it has not only been a practical one, but that it has accomplished that for which