

Dominion Educational Association.

The first meeting of the Dominion Educational Association, representing the twenty thousand teachers of Canada, was held at Montreal, July 5-8th. At the time of Confederation, the matter of education was left to the several provinces, and has had, thus far, neither unity nor uniformity. This association is the first attempt to bring together the educational forces of our country. The object of it is to secure, as far as may be possible, common subjects, text books and methods for the schools, and perhaps ultimately, for the universities of the Dominion, so that pupils and students who may pass from one province to another, may be able with greater advantage, to carry on their studies, and that licenses granted to teachers in any province may be good in all the other provinces. It is hoped too that the adoption by all of what is best in each, will result in a general advance in the whole system, and further that the bringing together and binding together of the teachers of the Dominion will foster a spirit of national patriotism that must tell powerfully for good upon the young of our country.

Leading educationists of the Dominion, from Nova Scotia in the East, and British Columbia on the West, from New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba, were present and devoted themselves faithfully to the consideration of the best ways and means of making, through their educational system, a better people of the Canadians. High over all was kept prominent the responsibility of the teaching profession, and the grand possibilities that are within its reach for making, not merely learned machines, but for building up by their character and teaching, that which is great and noble and pure and good among the young of the land.

The Great C. E. Convention.

The largest religious convention ever assembled in the history of the Christian Church, that of the Christian Endeavor Societies of the world, has just been held in Madison Square, New York. There have been vast gatherings of fifteen thousand, with an overflow meeting of ten thousand. From all parts of the United States and of Canada they have come, to get what good and gain they can from association with each other, from the impulse of numbers, from the instructive and stirring addresses of leaders in the work, and from united supplication to their common Lord.

The size and enthusiasm of the gatherings should do good not only to those present but to all others. Such an exhibition of the hold that Christianity has upon the youth of our land, should cheer the hearts of the Elijahs who are getting discouraged at the prevalence of worldliness and sin, should cheer the lonely workers

who seem to see so little fruit of their labors, should stimulate the praying ones to pray with greater earnestness and faith, and the thankful ones to give thanks with more of heart and joy.

Upon the world too, the lesson should not be lost. It can understand excited multitudes gathering at political conventions, but this shows to it that in the minds of many there are issues greater far, and whether it leads the world to pause and think, it will at least compel the attention of that world to itself, and will lead it to scan more carefully the lives of Christians, to see whether this religion be a reality, and it will therefore bring upon the latter a greater responsibility to show forth Christ in daily life.

But while the inspiration received from others and the mutual pledging of many in the presence of each other to a higher standard of Christian life, should not be without its permanent results, let us never forget that so far as the quickening and strengthening of spiritual life is concerned, these large conventions are helpful only in so far as they bring us, and keep us, nearer to Christ. The emotional enthusiasm of gathered numbers, that disappears when the numbers disperse, is worse than useless. The only real lasting impulse for Christian work must come from Christ. United to Him, holding constant fellowship with Him, listening to His word as He speaks to us, holding converse with Him in prayer, "alone with God," thus receiving ever of His Spirit and His strength, we shall be made willing and strong for work. He that *abideth in Me and I in him*, the same bringeth forth much fruit.

A Note From the American General Assembly.

The American General Assembly that met at Portland was an Assembly of earnest practical hard working men. There were few mere theorists among them. Many of them had little of experience in Assembly work, but they knew the message that God has given them to declare to men, and they knew the only kind of message that stands them in any stead in their work. Moreover, they were men of honesty and common sense and in a very matter of fact fashion they did just what any voluntary society or association of men would naturally do with regard to foundation principles of their society, they passed heartily the following resolution at their closing session:—"The General Assembly would remind all under its care that it is a fundamental doctrine that the Old and New Testaments are the inspired and infallible Word of God. Our church holds that the inspired Word, as it came from God, is without error. The assertion of the contrary cannot but shake the confidence of the people in the sacred books. All who enter office in our church solemnly profess to receive them as the only infallible rule of faith and practice. If they change their belief on this