

once that I would come. (Laughter.) I am always glad to come to Toronto. A gentleman asked me some time ago, "Which is the best city you have ever been in, in your life?" I said, "The best city I ever was in, in my life, in this country or in Europe, is Toronto." (Applause.) I never was in a city where it was such an inspiration and delight to me to spend the Sabbath, as in Toronto; I never was in a city where the Sabbath was observed as it is in Toronto; Toronto is an object lesson to the entire universe, my brethren; I have always considered, since the first Sunday I was here, that you are a kind of vestibule to heaven. It is a great privilege, I say it is a great happiness and comfort, to meet in such a community as this, for the sympathy of the people goes out to the meeting. There is a great deal in having the sympathy of the people. I was at a Convention some time ago, and was entertained by a gentleman, who asked me what I came for; I told him, to attend a S. S. Convention. He said, "What kind of a thing is that?" He had never heard of one. I did not feel at home very much there. But here in your homes, we are met by warm, sympathetic friends, and in a community like this, a Convention could not fail to be a good one; it would be utterly impossible, it seems to me, under such circumstances, to have anything but a good Convention, therefore I look forward to this as being one of the best ever held in your Province, and I believe the results will show it. We come here to a city where we shall not only meet with a hearty co-operation, but where we have those who are educated along the lines of S. S. work, and who are interested in the object for which we come here, which is one of the noblest and grandest in the world, as has been stated by the Rev. Dr. Potts. What do we meet in this city for? What is the Convention for? It is for the purpose of looking over this field, and seeing what we can do further to advance the S. S. interests. We want to plant the nurseries of piety all over this Dominion, all over this whole land; they are the grand missionary agencies, the great evangelizing power of the world to-day; and through the influence of the Sabbath School the world is being evangelized faster than, probably, by any other agency. We want to see what has been done in the past; we want to look over the future and see what is to be done, and devise ways and means to place the Sabbath School in a position where every child can reach it, to have it within reach of every one. Then we want to reach the moral people, too, for God has good people all over this land, in every section of it, who are willing to work for Him if they are shown how; we want to reach these people, and establish schools where they will learn the way of eternal life. And we want to meet here and consult together in regard to how we can do this work better. Is there any being, in heaven or earth, who has a right to demand of us better work than Jesus Christ, who has done so much for us? Should we not, therefore, give Him the very best work we are capable of? We want to make ourselves such workmen that we