

PELHAM.

Mr. KILLMAN, stated that there had been two township conventions held during the year in the township of Pelham, one for the English and one for the German speaking population. The Friends or Quakers had one of the finest Sabbath Schools in the county.

COUNTY OF WELLINGTON.

Mr. Wm. SMELLIE, Secretary County of Wellington, reported that the Sabbath School work in that county had been improving, and he hoped to be able to give a better report next year.

SOUTH ONTARIO.

Mr. John RATLIFF, said that a convention was held in the month of February last in Brooklyn which was a very successful one, for which we are to a great degree indebted to the General Secretary, Dr. Castle, of Toronto, Mr. James Hughes, and other friends of Sabbath School work. Out of fifty Sabbath Schools in the riding I have received reports from forty-seven, but after a great deal of correspondence and trouble. These schools report 3,537 scholars on the rolls, the average attendance being 2,215, shewing nearly one-third of the total number as absentees. The total number of teachers reported is 436, average attendance 326, leaving 110 or nearly one-third absent. I am afraid the absence of the teachers has something to do with the absence of the pupils. There were 33 infant classes with 605 scholars. Two hundred and eight members in full communion with the churches are reported, and 142 conversions during the past year. I attended not long ago a Sabbath School anniversary where it was reported that there had been sixty conversions in one school, and we hope to have a better report still in regard to conversions next year. Among the hindrances to Sabbath School work might be mentioned the carelessness of teachers. This is a most radical defect. The teacher who absents himself frequently from his class will be of little service to his scholars and but little improvement may be expected from his labors. Another hindrance is the want of good teachers, another the want of funds, and another the indifference of parents. Out of forty-seven reports only nine of them reported that they were doing anything for missions. If we wish to do anything in bringing the old to Christ, we must begin early and train the children to do something for His cause. The total number of volumes reported in the libraries is 10,000. At our annual county convention we always appoint a visiting committee whose duty it is to visit each Sabbath school in the riding, and report what is transpiring in each.