

MISSION UNION

THE FIELD IS THE WORLD
an Evangelistic Journal

DECEMBER, 1884.

MOODY CONVENTION,

Toronto, December 2 to 4, 1884

VERBATIM REPORT.

FIRST DAY.



Study to Show
Thyself Approved.

WE SHALL REAP



GATHER THEM IN



HE Convention was opened by Mr. Moody, when after opening exercises, the first topic was taken up,

"HOW TO PROMOTE SPIRITUAL LIFE IN THE CHURCHES."

opened by the Rev. Hugh Johnson. This topic is the central object of this Convention. We welcome to our city and to our hearts, our dear brother, whom God has made a messenger to the churches. We greet him affectionately in the name of the Lord. Our hearts go out toward him with an ardor which many waters cannot quench, and we earnestly pray that upon him and upon us all may rest the Spirit of love and of power and of a sound mind. Representatives of the various churches meet here to compare plans and methods, and seek inspiration for our work, and we but voice the one want, the one great need of the churches - More spiritual life. It is more life and fuller life that we want. The church is but the aggregation of individuals, and to promote spiritual life in the church we must promote individual spiritual life. How? By a more abiding union with the Lord Jesus Christ. He says: "He that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son hath not life." What a mystery surrounds the origin of life! What a mighty chasm yawns between vegetable life and animal life, the life of the tree and of the bird that sings among its branches; between the animal life and the mental life, the life of the bird and the life of man! And that same impassable gulf yawns between the life of the natural man and the life of the renewed man in Christ. Only life can generate life; and spiritual life developed out of the mere ordinary life is just as impossible as spontaneous generation. In Christ we