

5. *All subjects which would interfere with the non-sectarian character of the Convention, should be avoided, especially those which bear on controverted points of doctrine.** If these are once admitted, the harmony and usefulness of our Conventions will be destroyed. For similar reasons it would not be prudent to endorse the publications of any particular house or society; because upon such matters there is always great diversity of opinion, and it is better to leave teachers and schools to form their own judgment. Such a course will also prevent the Convention from being made a mere advertising agency for particular publishers.

6. FINALLY,—Let us keep the great end steadily in view. Let us remember that our Conventions are successful just in proportion as they result in leading the children to Jesus. Time and space forbid me to say more. Let us “love as brethren.” Let us pray for the time when “all” our “children shall be taught of the Lord.” Then shall our Conventions be “neither barren nor unfruitful,” but rather “times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord.” And when at last “we gather at the river—the beautiful river,” it will not lessen our joys to remember that we faithfully tried to fulfil one of the Saviour’s last behests to his disciples,—“Feed my lambs.”

* This was written in reference to mixed Conventions. Of course where denominational Conventions are held the caution will be unnecessary.