

ness which were the charms of womanhood. While their intellects had thus been highly cultivated, he was thankful to say that the moral discipline had been earnestly and prayerfully maintained, that the results in fact had been above all praise, except praise to Him who had brought so many out of darkness into the marvellous light of the Gospel.

Well, then, the Sunday-schools of Canada—for he wanted to get over the ground rapidly—as well as those throughout the whole American Continent, were a vast power for good, and were managed with remarkable completeness. They had there realized the true idea of Sunday-schools—the bringing of every child in the congregation under pastoral care first, and then under the Christian instruction of the Sunday-school. There all the choicest families in the Church were always represented in the Sabbath-school, first as scholars and then afterwards as teachers in their turn, while from these as from a centre mission schools were undertaken in quarters where they were very sorely needed. There was no part of Church work in Canada, as, indeed, throughout the whole Continent of America, which received such earnest, and, he had almost said, scientific attention. The Church gave its best culture and its highest life to train the young for Christ. While thus and otherwise endeavouring to go with its direct ministry of the truth into the midst of the common educational agencies, Methodism in Canada was trying to do something towards the creation of a pure literature and a healthy taste for it.

The Book-room in Toronto was a very flourishing establishment, and it was highly satisfactory to read the report of its year's doings, which he had in his hands, and which, by the way, was printed and distributed to every member of the Conference at the time when the book affairs were under consideration. The *Christian Guardian*, the ably edited organ of the Conference, found its way weekly to 25,000 readers; and although the original works issued from the Book-room were select rather than numerous, yet he believed that number to be about as many as had gone out this year from City-road, and it was a fact that the best works of English literature were eagerly purchased and eagerly read. The theological and ethical works of the best English writers were standards in many a Christian library in Canada, to say nothing of the continued appreciation of those religious biographies which so well kept the flame of divine love alive in the heart. In many a remote Canadian home, where they would hardly think civilization had gone at all, were worthy Christians whose emotions had been powerfully stirred up over the persecutions of William