

in the building, which was lighted with electric lights. All at once the lights went out, and perfect darkness prevailed all over the building. Many feared lest a panic should occur. Yet the words of the dear old Book came so literally true when it says, "He shall keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee!" and like a little child entering into slumber, that vast audience remained without a whisper, until faintly first, then the sound gradually increasing till like the strains of far-off music, the touching hymn, "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love," arose from every heart. And thus in darkness God's children proved to an unbelieving world that they "would rather walk in the dark with God than be alone in the light."

One asks would this same scene have ended thus, after nearly half an hour's darkness, in any other company than that of believers? What would have happened in a theatre or music hall? None can say.

To the stranger in Endeavor work, it would perhaps strike him as an impossible thing that 10,000 to 12,000 delegates should come together and have *no collections, no balance sheet, no expenses to report, no money to raise!* Yet that is just the plan of Convention-work of Endeavorers. The cost of the Minneapolis Convention will reach many thousand dollars; all the work done represents weeks and months of labor. Yet no balance sheet. And why? you ask. Simply because (1) A fundamental principle of the Endeavor movement is that no paid officer shall be recognized by the United Endeavor Society; that all workers, no matter how laborious, shall give their services free. (2) That the city inviting the Convention shall meet its every liability. Thus no appeals are made, only through local societies for directly local work; and that no society need feel burdened to support an organization that is not their own in every way.

Ira D. Sankey's name is yet a strength and tower. His songs and singing have not yet ceased to inspire. To have such an one at any large assembly is in itself an inspiration. And to hear him in this Convention, as he led us in song, was to all of us a great joy and pleasure.

The effect also of a chorus of 1000 voices, pouring forth their song of heart and lip, nerved the audience in every new piece of music to endeavor to do its best, and thus though the pieces were, many of them, quite new, the Convention soon got into the swing of the choruses, and then of the hymns themselves, until the whole delegation seemed one mighty trained choir. And what shall I say more? I could tell you of grand heartfelt greetings one with another, of the gospel of Hand-shaking, the gospel of Fellowship, the gospel of International, of Inter-dominational, of Inter-racial, of Inter-colonial, brotherly love, and then not be

half through. Just let me say, that I urge, ye a beg and pray, that every Christian Endeavor Society in Canada will *commence at once* for the sending of a delegate to New York in 1892. Let there be a special fund laid aside for this purpose, so that every church may catch this dropping of the showers, and every Society the infusion of new life through its own delegate. Montreal strove hard—and the whole of Canada joined hands in the desire to bring the Convention to that city for 1892. But after mature deliberation it was thought wisest to have the next gathering at New York; and in 1893 Montreal will have her heart's desire granted, in the entertaining of the grandest army of living men and women the church of Christ has ever had at its back. Brothers, sisters, arouse ye! Seek by every effort to start societies! Visit your churches, be it in your own denomination or not! Do not drop behind in this great crusade. "Let the lower lights be burning," until the fuller glorious sunlight of Heaven's portals be our eternal goal!

I wish it were possible to record the addresses or suggestions given during the meetings, in this report; but as this is impossible, my last words shall be about the Consecration Meeting which closed the sessions' work on Sunday evening.

To the residents of Minneapolis, the city has seemed a peculiar place during the last few days. The strange faces, the bright words, sweet songs, and felt power—what did it all mean? The very air seemed to be surcharged with an electricity unknown to many. The merchant, professional man, laborer, city official, railroad official—everybody, simply gave place to the new order of things: each of them declaring they never saw such in their lives before. Is not this what was said of old, "These that TURN THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN are come hither also."

And so the feeling grew, until the climax was reached when the eleven thousand delegates* and four thousand visitors met for the closing consecration meeting. Dare I try to describe it? I cannot. Yet the manifestation of power, the bowed heart, the subdued voice, as State after State rose and pledged again their troth at their Master's feet, was simply overpowering.

I will try and give you an idea of the proceedings of one State, and each followed in quick succession: Take Canada as representing one "State." The leader of the meeting called on Canada to know if she would, with open heart and loving obedience, renew the pledge of loyalty to Christ for another year? The representatives, with open bibles, chanted, or read together, words

* Since sending the proof sheets to the press we learn that the Secretary of the Convention reported that over eleven thousand delegates had registered their names during the meetings.