

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—

I regret exceedingly (a regret I am sure that will be participated in by everyone present), that our much respected President, the Hon. Mr. Allan, is not here to perform the pleasant duty that devolves upon me in his absence. I have very much pleasure in formally receiving from the Building Committee, at the hands of its esteemed chairman, this noble building, and I trust that all that has been anticipated with reference to it will be fully realized. It is not necessary for me to add anything to what I have said. Mr. Denovan, on behalf of the Tract Society, probably will have something more to say. I should mention, however, that I cannot do justice to my feelings without expressing the very great obligation that the Society is under to Mr. MacDonald, the chairman of the Building Committee, whose zeal and energy, during the whole time that the erection of this building has been in progress, have been beyond all praise.

The Rev. Joshua Denovan, President of the Tract Society, followed. He said, —

Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the Upper Canada Tract Society, which I have the honour to represent, I accept, at the hands of yourself and the members of the Building Committee, this substantial monument of Christian, undenominational beneficence. I pray God that it may long stand here, in the very centre of the hurried business portion of this large and growing city, a monument for God, and a solemn attestation of the truth of His Holy Word, a rebuke to worldliness and selfishness, and a voice to every passer-by, to seek the world that is better than this one.

I do also earnestly desire to express what I am sure is the opinion of every member of the directorate of the society which I represent, to the gentlemen of the Building Committee, I desire, I say, to express their opinion regarding this gift of munificence which has been handed over to us. The trust laid upon them has been exceedingly well discharged. It is indeed a beautiful, substantial, and commodious building, and without multiplying words, I am sure I may unite with all God's people in the expression of the wish that it may long stand here as a source from which shall go out the Word of Life; by which the lost shall be saved; by which God's elect shall be nurtured; by which shall be hastened the coming of the day when the great God of heaven, even our Lord Jesus Christ, shall appear the second time, without sin, unto salvation; whom not seeing, we love; in whom, though now we see Him not, yet believing, we rejoice with joy unspeakable, and full of glory.

The hymn, "O, Thou who did'st the Temple fill," was then sung, after which the chairman called upon the Venerable Archdeacon Boddy, who addressed the meeting as follows :—

MR. CHAIRMAN, MY CHRISTIAN FRIENDS :—

I presume that I am here on this occasion as the representative of the Church of England, the Bishop of Toronto, as the appointed head of our Diocese, being prevented, by an engagement elsewhere, from taking the place which was reserved for him in these proceedings. Though I regret his absence (as I am sure he does himself), I am more than willing to act as his mouthpiece on this occasion. I can truly say that I feel it an honour to be permitted publicly to express the great regard I have for the two noble institutions, the Bible and Tract Societies. If I could think that my church was not in favour of these societies I should be ashamed of my church, and I should be almost disposed to wish myself in communion with some other body. It is quite true that some of the members of the English Church stand aloof from the Bible and Tract Societies, and I am sorry it is so, but it is not because they are out of sympathy with the societies' work; it is not