

ing of the Association has been an improvement on the former in spiritual power, and we fully expect that this will not be an exception to this rule. Our God is a God of progress. Ever the command is, "Forget the things behind, reach forward to that which is before." "Increase more and more." Let us yield to this scriptural thought, and expect still greater things. Comparatively few professing Christians have entered the rest of faith, and much remains to be done in the ministry before all become workmen that need not be ashamed in the matter of having fruit unto holiness in building up believers. Let much prayer be made in behalf of the Convention, "praying with all prayer in the Spirit." But, most of all, let faith be in lively exercise, for he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven of the wind and tossed. Let not that man think he shall receive anything of the Lord.

Friends, whether members of the Association or not, who design attending, will please to drop a card to Rev. R. D. Woodsworth, Dundas, at their earliest convenience, that the friends in Dundas who are preparing to entertain may have due notice of their coming.

Rev. Thomas Colling, Secretary of the Association, will preach on Monday evening, 22nd, and we earnestly exhort all who can to be present at that service, and so be able to commence the Convention proper on the morning of Tuesday, the 23rd. We expect the Convention to continue for three days.

THE GOSPEL OF HOPE.

"That ye may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Ghost."—Rom. xv. 13.

How readily mistakes which originate in the world are incorporated in the lives of professed Christians !

It is a maxim in the world that a hopeful spirit is a talent or gift, like music, or a special aptitude for mathematics or mechanics. Hence one is spoken of as naturally of a hopeful disposition, and the inference is readily drawn that all despondency, or buoyancy of spirits, like inherited wealth, is distributed by a sister of the blind goddess of fortune, and that the only counteracting forces are the outward surroundings of life. If one, then, is gifted with a hopeful mind, and has a pleasant environment, his lot is desirable; but if naturally of a gloomy disposition, and unfortunate in the surroundings of life, his lot is a pitiable one, and he an object of deepest sympathy.