

S. S. CONVENTION.

M. E. Sunday School Workers in Session.

The London District S. S. Convention of the M. E. Church, met on Wednesday 15th of June, in the M. E. Church, in Goderich, Rev. C. Lounsbury presiding; Rev. J. T. Davis, secretary. After the opening services, the President made a short address, showing the rapid growth of Sunday School, and its great importance as a department of the Church.

Rev. J. T. Davis then spoke upon "The Sphere of the Sabbath School," and made the following points: It is not a substitute for the family; not a substitute for other religious meetings. But it is: "A department of the S. S.; it is a school; a school of the Word; intended to bring souls to Christ; it is for all, both young and old.

Rev. C. W. Vollick introduced the subject, "The Teacher and his Influence." The gist of the speaker's remarks can be summed up in the three "P's"—patience, punctuality and prayer, which he urged upon S. S. workers. In the discussion which followed the following persons took part: Rev. W. N. Vollick, Rev. C. M. Thompson, W. Hummerston, W. Keys, Rev. N. Dickie, Rev. J. T. Davis, T. McGillicuddy, Rev. E. Lounsbury.

Rev. C. M. Thompson led off on the question of "Management of the S. S.," advocating thorough organization, and ventilated some passages in the book of discipline on appointments. He was followed by M. Keys, Rev. J. T. Davis, Rev. C. W. Vollick, Rev. E. Lounsbury, Mr. T. McGillicuddy, and Mr. J. Wryckman.

On Wednesday evening Rev. F. D. Ling led in prayer, and after the reading of the minutes, and music from the choir, Rev. N. Dickie opened up the theme, "The Necessity of Thoroughness in Sabbath School Work," and characterized it as a great work. It was the real bulwark of the Christian Sabbath. If the Sunday School could not be continued, the church would also be discontinued.

It is necessary to have a good foundation, and the true foundation is Christ. Children were the best material to work with. That man alone who is thoroughly devoted to the work will succeed. A school should not confine its work to its own doors. Thoroughness is also needed in organization and equipment. He was followed by Mr. T. McGillicuddy.

Rev. C. M. Thompson read an interesting paper on "Childhood and Youth," showing the powers and capabilities of young minds, and advocating thorough and careful Christian training. The essay was very well received. Rev. J. T. Davis followed in a few pointed remarks on thoroughness in S. S. work. There was a need of thoroughness of thinking in the work, and also thoroughness in working out the thought. Rev. E. Lounsbury also spoke.

On Thursday morning, at 8.15, a prayer meeting was held, conducted by the Rev. N. Dickie. At 9 o'clock the regular convention was re-opened. After the reading of the minutes, Rev. W. N. Vollick introduced the theme, "The benefit of the S. S. to the Pastor." It was a benefit financially; in the school were to be found the best collectors for missions, etc.; the best listeners to sermons are those who study God's work in the S. S.; a good S. S. greatly helped good congregational singing; it is an aid to the pastor in leading members of the congregation to Christ.

He was supported by Rev. J. T. Davis, C. M. Thompson, N. Dickie, and C. W. Vollick. Rev. J. T. Davis and N. Dickie were appointed to answer queries. It was decided to hold the next convention at Chisholm.

more from his neck of 30 years standing. He is now doing well.

BAD MONEY.—Mr. P. Moore, of Brussels, changed a four-dollar bill at Commercial hotel, Blyth, a short time ago and part of his change consisted of a two-dollar Zimmerman bank Bill. He shortly afterwards was paying the bill to the bank in Brussels, when he was informed that it was worthless. Mr. M. at once had a warrant issued against Mr. Hawkshaw for passing bad money. It cost Mr. H. about \$11. He was not aware that the money was bad.

Miss Malock's Romance.

The following respecting the gifted author of "A Life for a Life," will be perused with interest by readers of THE SIGNAL:

It was "John Halifax," published after she was thirty years old, that brought her a name, and made the task of earning her daily bread a little less arduous. Seven years later she was awarded a pension of three hundred dollars a year. She was nearly forty when she married. In 1865 Captain George Lillie Craik, an officer in the English army, who had been in the Crimea, met Miss Malock, and although some years her junior, addressed her and succeeded in winning her hand. They proved most congenial companions, and their married life was all they could wish, with but one exception.

The woman whose love for children amounted almost to a passion, who wrote "Phillip, My King," was denied the happiness of feeling baby fingers upon her cheek or of ever hearing herself called mother. This was a severe sorrow; but even this pain has been partly assuaged. Strangely enough, one dark, rainy night, while she and her husband were speaking of children and of the joy and brightness they bring to so many dwellings, there came a loud ring at the bell and then a furious knocking. On opening the door, lying upon the sill they found a basket inclosed in many wrappings. When they were removed they discovered a lovely little baby only a few hours old. The child was wrapped in one roll after another of India muslin, and on its breast was pinned a note, begging Mrs. Craik to be kind to the little waif thus brought to her door, and assuring her that no mean blood flowed in its veins. Tenderly she lifted the little thing in her arms, and her heart opened as warmly to take in the poor little deserted creature. They called the child Dorothea, God-given, and she became their adopted daughter.

THE IRISH LAND QUESTION.

Jon Bright Puts the Whole Matter in a Nutshell—A Telling Incident.

In a recent speech on the Irish land bill, John Bright said:—I may relate an incident which occurred in 1849, when I was in Ireland, to illustrate how this law (primogeniture) acts in that country. I was speaking to a gentleman whose acquaintance I made in Dublin—a man of great information on all matters connected with landed property in Ireland, and I asked him why a mutual friend had not bought the land on which he had recently built a new house. He said, "Bought the land? He could not have bought it. It belongs to Lord somebody, who has property in the neighborhood." He continued, "I have been in Ireland all my life, and I know as much, perhaps, about land there as anybody, and I have known of a great estate being sold in Ireland, but I have not known of the sale of a farm or of a fee. Such a thing is scarcely known in the whole country." He mentioned two baronies in the county of Wexford, and he said that the owner of an estate had died, that he left daughters only. In the case of daughters the law of primogeniture does not apply, and the consequence was that it was thought advantageous to the daughters that the estate should be sold, and some sensible person suggested that the farms should be offered to the tenants. The result in that case, the only case he knew of in his experience, was that the estate was divided and offered to the tenants, and many of the tenants purchased their farms. I afterwards went down to the county of Wexford with a friend with whom I was staying in Dublin, and who was also well acquainted with Irish affairs, and we visited those two particular baronies. We enlisted the services of an intelligent priest, who went with us to call on several of the tenants, and we called on one of them—a fine old man named Stafford, who was sitting in a very comfortable arm-chair, in a very comfortable room, in a very solid and well-built house. In conversation we asked Mr. Stafford how he, living on that farm, had so much better a house over his head than we had seen in connection with any farm since we had left Dublin. He said the estate was sold, the farm was offered to him and he bought it; he then, not being liable to be disturbed and not in any danger of having his rent raised, did not like to continue to live in a poor house, and therefore he built his good solid stone house. I said: "Mr. Stafford, if the great bulk of the commoners of Ireland were in your condition, would not be disturbed, and could not have their rent raised, and were owners of the farms, what would be the result?" He almost sprang out of his chair. Although an old man he was struck with a momentary enthusiasm, and lifting his arm he said, "Sir, we would take hunger out of Ireland." (Cheers.) I think that anecdote contains very much the whole story of Irish poverty and Irish suffering. What we want to do by this bill is to drive famine, and poverty, and suffering, and discontent from Ireland, and I believe that that can only be done by measures such as this, which will give to the tenantry of Ireland that which Mr. Stafford preserved—the security of their holdings and security from unjust increases of rent.

"Hail beautiful, bounteous, gladsome Spring"—this was Mark Twain's prize poem—but the dire diseases incident to Spring, spoil the romance. Burdock Blood Bitters is the prize remedy, the remedy prized by who have tried it as the best Blood Purifying Tonic and System Regulator in the market. It cures all Blood Humors from the worst Scrofula to a common Pimple. Sample Bottles 10 cents, for sale by all dealers in medicine.

On Thursday afternoon a mass meeting of children was held, and well attended. The opening services were conducted by Mr. Shuter. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President, Mr. James Turner, of Ingersoll, occupied the chair very acceptably. Rev. C. W. Vollick gave an earnest address on parental responsibility, after which Rev. J. T. Davis and his daughter, Miss Mattie Davis, sang a pretty duet "It's Better Further on." Mr. Wm. Keys, of Stanley, made a very good speech on the evils of bad literature, bad company, gambling and intemperance. Mr. T. McGillicuddy followed in an earnest and pointed address to children, parents and teachers. Rev. J. T. Davis also made a stirring speech to the children.

The opening of the question box, and the replies made by Rev. T. Davis, were greatly enjoyed by all present, and was one of the most interesting features of the gathering.

Rev. G. A. Francis then addressed the convention in behalf of the congregation, and was replied to by visiting members in touching words.

After votes of thanks to all who had assisted in the endeavor to make the convention a success, the convention broke up, many of the visitors expressing themselves as well pleased with the sessions and their stay generally in town.

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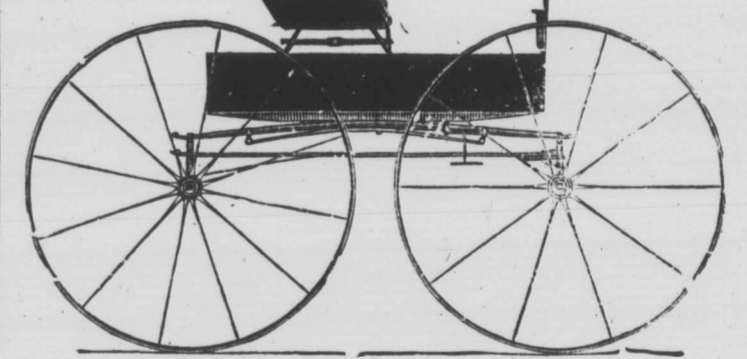
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E. Cameron, our just returned from rough Western, Ontario, of the largest towns and certainly looks away.—A runaway occurred on Win. Irwin, with law, Mrs. Graham, the village by the 1 when opposite the of the Ross street age, spirited team, and sprang forward, us from the neck- to their fright, and control, and the ter- furiously down the laughing along the Opposite Lawrence of they ran foul of ring it out of the the unfortunate oc- with great force to ters were conveyed and Dr. Mackid was tended to their in- was found to have injuries. Several er arm was badly injured, together and contusions on ody. Mrs. Irwin a number of ribs escaped with a slight internal in- stopped the horses, own to the ground, were in any way well that the post or we might have record a more ser- nel.

OKX, Clerk. beautify the to the breath let gem. Get 1763