

Imagine a medium-sized, neat, gentlemanly figure; mobile face; bright, quick eyes; well-formed head, whose symmetry is more apparent from partial baldness, and you have Dr. Vincent before your mind's eye. He is alert and sprightly in manner, very fluent in utterance, and has a finely modulated voice, which, however, he seldom uses in its full compass. His addresses abound in happy illustration, sometimes humorous or pathetic; and in answering the questions publicly asked him on all manner of topics, he exhibits wonderful readiness, shrewdness, and "sanctified common-sense," often lit up with rare flashes of spontaneous wit. Intense earnestness, a deep spirituality, profound study of his subject and of human nature, broad sympathies and thorough geniality are the striking characteristics of the man. On his election to the prominent position which he occupies, he travelled extensively in the Holy Land, that he might be the better prepared for the discharge of the duties of his office. He is universally regarded by his brethren as one of the leading, if not the very foremost, Sunday-school worker in America. He is the chief originator both of the International Lesson system and of the Chautauqua Assembly. This institution owes most of its success to his organizing genius, the evidences of which are stamped upon every department of its operations.

Lake Chautauqua is a beautiful sheet of water, twenty-four miles long, varying from two to four miles wide, situated in the extreme south-western portion of New York State. Though only seven miles from the shore of Lake Erie, it is seven hundred feet above that lake and fourteen hundred and fifty feet above the sea level. It is the highest navigated water on the Continent. The air is peculiarly pure and salubrious, and the scenery of the lake is of unsurpassed loveliness. Wild and picturesque hills, mirrored on the bosom of the calm waters, deep embowered bays, and rich pastoral slopes green or golden with the summer grain, present a panorama of ever-varying beauty.

Fairpoint, where the Assembly is held, is a somewhat level cape, jutting out into the lake, about three miles from Mayville. The grounds are covered by a magnificent growth of stately forest trees. As one approaches by steamboat from Mayville, the gleaming tents, the picturesque cottages and pavilions,