

Mr. J. R. Dougal, from the Temporary Business Committee, reported,—That the Convention do proceed forthwith to the discussion of the first subject on the programme, and that the first speaker have 20 minutes, and other speakers 5 minutes each. The discussion to be limited to one hour.

A hymn was then sung, after which the Rev. Wm. Gregg, of Toronto, led the Convention in prayer.

At the call of the President, D. L. Moody, Esq., of Chicago, opened the discussion of the first subject, viz:—

WHAT ARE THE BEST METHODS OF ORGANIZING AND DEVELOPING THE CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY OF THE MEMBERS OF OUR ASSOCIATIONS?

Mr. Moody, on being introduced, said,—The first step in the formation of an Association should be to get a live man at the head of it. It was quite a mistake to get hold of a man with a big name, as if that was all that was necessary. A live dog was better than a dead lion. The next thing was to set the young men to work. In Chicago their energies had been largely directed to street preaching, by which much good had been done. Committees were also appointed to go into the numerous saloons and billiard rooms which were alluring young men to perdition, and to induce those who frequented them to accompany them to the rooms of the Association. In company with two others he recently brought fifteen out of one saloon in a single evening. Their mode was to go in kindly and pleasantly, get into conversation with the young men, then ask them to sing a good patriotic song—then another, and when they got social together, say to them, shall we sing that good old hymn we learnt at home from our mothers, "There is a fountain filled with blood," after we get through, we invite them to come up to our meetings—and they come.

This feature of their work was effecting a great temperance reformation. He did not know the state of christian activity here, but if the Toronto Association was like those of most of the American cities of its size you might count all the live men in it on the ends of your fingers. Their motto should be "Every man to his work." In Chicago two-thirds of the inhabitants were visited by Members of the Association every month. It was a great point gained to get the sympathy of the churches and have them work in unison with the Association. It had taken them some time to do this, for at first many of the ministers were opposed to the Association on the ground that it was calculated to interfere with the work of the churches, but when they saw that their churches were increased by the organization, they united with it. There were 109 of these Associations in the State of Massachusetts alone, and they were increasing in numbers and influence all over the Union. He