

Messrs. Baird and Tibb, while on their way to Edinburgh, dropped off at Alleghany and represented Knox College at the first convention of the American Alliance. Messrs. Mutch and Smith were sent by the students to represent them in the third annual gathering at Chicago; and Mr. Smith with Mr. Cline, of McMaster Hall, and Armitage of Wycliffe College, attended the fourth at Hartford last year.

The intense enthusiasm which these latter gentlemen brought back, could only find its full expression in the completion of the plan before mooted to establish a Canadian Alliance. There were good reasons for this step. The American Society knew no bounds. This meant long distances of travel for our delegates, little attention to Canadian wants, and a convention in Canada perhaps once in fifty years. It was plain, on the other hand, that we had a sufficient number of colleges for a separate organization, that delegates could meet without great difficulty, and lastly, that we had talent equal to that of our American friends.

The first convention was announced for October 30, in Toronto. The excellence of the programme must have given all interested good hopes of success.

The series of meetings began with a large and enthusiastic public gathering in the Metropolitan Church. Dr. Castle gave a real address of welcome. The occasion and the grand subject, "The Baptism of the Holy Spirit, the need of the Church in Relation to Missions," inspired Dr. Potts to true eloquence. These addresses, together with the interest shown by the public, opened up to view the significance of the movement thus inaugurated. When the students met, after the benediction, at the front of the church for prayer, they felt that they were brethren indeed in a grand cause, and that it was good to dwell together in unity.

The next afternoon a paper on the intensely interesting Zenana work in India was followed by a spirited and profitable discussion. After this came the only biographical sketch on the programme, a noble paper on Henry Martyn.

Although the evening was wet and the audience thin, yet those who were present remember it as one of the best of the series. The words of the Bishop of Toronto were highly encouraging, and the manly, stirring address of the Rev. W. F. Campbell came from the right man in the right place.

No convention can be conducted without some attention to business, and least of all the first of an organization. On Saturday morning, therefore, the members went to work at this and ran through the items with satisfaction. It was a good principle endorsed when it was agreed that the Convention Committee should transact the chief business so that the Convention should be turned aside from its real aim only to confirm the acts of the Committee. We are glad that the constitution is so simple: may it never grow complex! May the Alliance always keep wide of constitutional quibbles, the sepulchre of many societies!

The business meeting pressed down enthusiasm only to give force to its rebound. The first paper of the afternoon brought up the mission work of the North-West. So many had been there and were full of their work and its suggestions; so many had questions and schemes that the chairman was a little puzzled in deciding the right to the floor, and to know when to close the debate. Heightening the spirit wrought up by this subject, came a stirring paper on the Japanese recently born again nationally, and soon to see a higher