

serving under the King of Peace. In the year 1887, the report of the International Committee reads thus: "At this time nearly 20,000,000 are enrolled under our banner, and the 2,000,000 of teachers and officers now leading the march are the equals of any 2,000,000 of men and women who have ever been engaged in any work. Among them are a multitude that for power of brain and heart, for wisdom and knowledge, for training and culture, for love and sacrifice are the peers of any company on earth, and we who plan for such an host may well seek Divine wisdom and guidance." Such were the words of the Committee in 1887. In the centuries gone by, there was a vast amount of piety and talent in the churches, thus we of to-day freely acknowledge, but very much of it was unemployed in active work for Christ and the Church. The S. S. opened new avenues for work and set new forces into operation. The unemployed forces ever since have been marshalling all along the line, and with one heart and mind have been entering upon the work of the S. S. In this respect we have virtually entered upon a new age. The unemployed talent that formerly was wasted in empty metaphysical discussions, or in unbrotherly theological discussions of endless absurdity, one that settled down into the indolence of a mere formalism, or that drivelled itself away in the vagaries of witchcraft and other

miserable superstitions, all this has been set at work at the divine labour of leading each rising generation into the light and liberty of the Kingdom of Christ. well may we bless God for the dawning—the growing day of the S. S. life and operations. Officers and teachers, what a privilege it is to take rank with these 2,000,000! What an honor to be enrolled with this goodly company! What a multitude of reflex blessings is in the work! How it saves us from ourselves, and from the ills of all the ages! Let it never again be said that our schools lack teachers, or that there is a difficulty in finding new teachers when the older ones are compelled to drop out of line. Such a confession on the part of any school or congregation is a confession that the sleep, the very death of sin is in their midst. Whenever the light of heaven falls to-day there must be life in the S. S., for the Divine energy, the very life of Jesus Christ is moving out and on in this direction, and we must flow on with this great spiritual movement or else be left behind to perish with the old world of sin and death.

2nd. The S. S. has created a *Literature* of its own, vast in extent and eminently calculated to further the great work in hand. Time was when the children had virtually nothing of their own to read. It is not so long ago since all the scholars in the day schools, young and old, large and small, learned