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## THE NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' ASSEMBLY, AUGUST, 1874.

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Sunday School "Conventions" and "Institutes," for a city, a province, or a nation, are pretty familiar to most of our friends. But what was this "Assembly?" Very much like the others, except that it was meant to be a national mass meet-

ing, held out of doors.

It was called by the Sunday School Union of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and under the leadership of Rev. Dr. John H. Vincent, "whose praise is in the Gospel throughout all the churches." But every privilege of the Assembly was in the most cordial and hospitable manner thrown freely open to Sunday School Workers of all churches and all countries, and all these felt that they stood upon a perfectly equal footing.

The place of meeting was a camp meeting ground, at Fair Point, on Lake Chautauqua, New York State, some thirty miles south of Lake Erie. The Lake was some twenty miles long, by three to six broad, and eight hundred feet above the level of Lake Erie. The air was of such rare purity that it was a luxury to breathe. At either end of the lake, at Mayville and Jamestown, connection was made by steamers, with railways, in all directions, so that visitors could be back

into the busy world again at an hour's notice.

At this quiet and beautiful spot, some fifty acres of well-timbered land had been secured by a Local Camp Meeting Association, by whom it was loaned to the executive of the "Assembly." The entrances, by land and water, were under the entire control of that executive, who admitted visitors at the moderate charge of twenty cents a single day, and one dollar for the whole term. Near the landing place, a beautiful grove was set apart for purposes of recreation and promenade, adorned with statuary, fountains, and rustic seats. Here a path soon led you to "the office," where the "Department of Entertainment" had its head-quarters, and to which every one wanting lodgings was directed to apply. Here all applicants were registered and assigned to quarters in tent or cottage as they might prefer. Whole tents could be rented for \$10, \$14, or \$20, according to size. These had floors, but needed furnishing by the occupant. The cottage accommodation was at various prices. In a room where eighteen gentlemen slept, the charges were fifty cents a night to each. In other cases, where two persons had a room to themselves, the cost might run as high as \$1 per day apiece. In all cases, there was very close packing—no room to spare.

Suppose then, that you have your billet, and the baggage master has delivered your movables, and that you go to look about you. First, you are attracted to the "auditorium," a large open space, shaded by tall trees, on rising ground, with the preachers' stand at the lower end, and rough seats for 3000 or 4000 people.