

surrounded with just such company that I wish at last to go to Heaven in." I trust we shall be punctual in all our meetings while we are together, and that a charitable christian feeling may characterize all our deliberations, and that we may go from this convention truly feeling that it has been good for us to be here. and that we carry to the different parts of the country, new vigor and new life into all our Sabbath Schools; and all be abundantly instrumental in carrying forward this Heavenly enterprise, and never feel that we have cause to relax our efforts until every child in the country is brought under religious instruction.

The Chairman then appointed a Business Committee who retired, after which one hour was spent in devotional exercises.

The Business Committee then reported the order of business which was adopted.

The Chairman then called upon the Secretary, the Rev. J. Unsworth, to read the Annual Report, who rising said:

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN—With devout gratitude to Almighty God, the Committee of the Halton Sabbath School Union, meet the Delegates and Friends of this County, to give an account of their Stewardship, by presenting the First Annual Report of the doings, state, and progress of the Sabbath School Union of this County, for the year ending February 8th 1859.

Your Committee feel thankful to Almighty God, for inclining the friends of Sabbath Schools in the County of Halton, to follow in the steps of their brethren in the County of Peel, incited as they and we were to the good work, by the Provincial Sabbath School Convention held in Kingston, on April 11th 1857, which Convention aroused us to more earnest action in the great work, which we believe is to none second in importance and adaptation to make us feel our obligations and privileges, inciting us to diligence, faithfulness, and efficiency in training the youth for Christ and Heaven.

Your Committee feel confident from the success which has attended similar Unions in Great Britain, the United States, and our beloved Canada, with the blessed effects which have attended the working of this during its short existence, that the little one shall increase, until every Township and County of Canada will have a Sabbath School Union in their midst.

Your Committee have met with many, both Teachers and Friends, who have expressed their strong sympathy with and approbation of this Union, because they have felt its benefits already. It has enlarged their ideas of the nature and design of Sabbath School instruction; of the duties and qualifications of an effective teacher, and of the importance of system being observed in all their school exercises and operations.

There are however, a few who seem indifferent, we would not say opposed to uniting with us heartily in our work. But we think in a short time the Lord will open their eyes, enlarge their sympathies, and fire their zeal for him; so that we shall yet meet on the broad platform of union, for the religious education and conversion of the youth of our land to God.

Your Committee wish it to be distinctly understood, it is not the object of this Union to dictate legislate, or interfere with the working of any School, whether Denominational or Union; but to talk in love and honesty about what should be the end of Sabbath School instruction! How instruction should be communicated to the young, to be the most effective and fruitful for the end sought; who should teach and what should be their qualifications, and what are their duties with all other matters that may tend to qualify and encourage teachers and friends in the working of Sabbath Schools, that the young may be led direct to Christ, and made intelligent members of society.

It will be remembered by many present that during the discussion of questions 2 and 12 of the circular of the Convention of last year, the following resolution was submitted and adopted by the Convention, which will be found on page 23rd of the report, viz: That it appears desirable that some practical result should follow from the meeting of this Convention. That general and local organizations for the carrying out and encouraging Sabbath School efforts are becoming increasingly important. That some such organization for this County is necessary. That the following persons constitute a Committee to make arrangements for the formation of a Sunday School Union, for the County of Halton, viz: G. Brown, D. McLeod, Rev. J. Unsworth, J. Harrison, P. W. Dayfoot, R. L. White, and J. B. Willmott.