

erton); Mr. William Watson (Weston); Mr. D. Fotheringham (Aurora); Mr. J. H. Roper (Peterboro').

Hymn—"I need Thee every hour."

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The PRESIDENT said: Christian Friends, when I reached Toronto this morning, on my way to the station I was taken ill, and for some time I was in doubt whether to come on to Peterboro' or to return home. I went to my Heavenly Father in prayer, and asked Him to direct me in the course I should take, and I decided to come to this Convention; and I kept getting better and better on my way down, until when I reached Peterboro' I had entirely recovered. I never do come to a Sabbath School Convention but I feel better, for the work is one that is very dear to my heart (applause), as one who was long a Sabbath School scholar, and for many years since a Sabbath School teacher. I have to thank the Association for electing me their President last year. However ill qualified I may feel myself to occupy such a position, still the work of being an ambassador for Christ in any measure is one in which any man might desire to take part. We are not teaching or preaching ourselves, but Christ; and we have no need to be ashamed of our Master, or of the work He assigns us. I do not intend to speak at any great length, but I will endeavour in a few words to tell you what I think impedes the onward march of Sabbath School work. I believe it is the want of the sympathy and support of the Christian Church. (Hear, hear.) Hitherto many Christians have looked upon the Sabbath School as altogether a separate organization from the Church—something not provided for in the Church—and that therefore the Church was not under any strong obligation to support it. The first Sabbath School I attended, I remember, was a union one, organized by three or four earnest Christians in the locality. It went on well enough in the summer, but in the autumn the teachers had to go from house to house asking donations for a *soiree* to help to discharge its liabilities, as well as subscriptions of money. The next I attended was a denominational one, but the Church took no more interest in maintaining it than if it didn't belong to it at all. This is not as it should be. (Hear, hear.) The Church should regard the Sabbath School as part of its organization, and should leave nothing undone, spiritually or financially, to render it a success. I hope that the time is not far distant when, in making the annual appropriations for the schemes of the Churches, sufficient funds for the support of the Sabbath Schools shall be laid aside, so that no teacher may be compelled to go about the neighbourhood begging for funds to carry it on. (Hear, hear.) You all remember the Saviour's conversation with Peter on the morning following the weary, toil-