

It is recognized by many Christians that the supreme need of the Church in these days is that the children of God may learn more fully "the secret of the Lord" in a life controlled and energized by the Holy Ghost. The lack of the manifestation of spiritual graces and power on the part of those who bear the name of Christ, in spite of the full provision of the Lord, is appalling. The Church at large, in comparison with what she might be, stands spiritually paralyzed, while a world lies dying at her feet. It is evident that a New Reformation is needed; and this will only be found as Christians draw nearer to their divine Head and find in Him the spiritual healing and re-invigoration which they need. Silently the work must be done. Not by any appeal to the passions of men, as in the reforming days of old; not even by theological or denominational discussions, as has too often taken place in these our days; but by such a quiet yet deep reception on the part of one and another of God's children, wherever they are found, of the fullness of the life which is in Christ Jesus, as will at last transform life and service, and make manifest, as not since Apostolic days, that men on earth can live to the glory of God and to the constant and eternal blessing of their fellow-men. If the lives of individuals may be thus enkindled by the Holy Spirit, the fire of divine blessing will rapidly spread, and we shall see gathered out within the professing Church of Christ a purified people that shall be, in deed and in truth, "for His Name." Thus only may the Church at large be in any sense charged with dynamic force, and thus only will the world be reached and blessed. Conventions for the deepening of the spiritual life have, therefore, their place, and we are persuaded that there are few agencies in these days which God is more ready to use, to bring the unsearchable riches of His grace to the needy and weary souls of men.

It was with confident expectation in Christ that the Ottawa Convention was planned and held, and the great Head of the Church deigned to answer the faith of His children and to give a large measure of the blessing which was sought. It is with similar trust that this report of the messages then delivered of Christ's boundless love and limitless power are sent forth in printed form. May the God of grace and glory accept of the same, and use them to the quickening of many lives, that not a few may be raised up in these perilous times to bear a good confession before many witnesses. And thus may the coming of Christ be hastened, before whom at last every knee shall bow, and every tongue shall confess that He is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.