

doubtedly we shall all look, as I myself look, to receive some benefit in this line from this Convention, that we may get nearer to the solution of the vexed question, "How are our teachers to be helped to reach a higher standard of teaching power?" When we have that question answered I think we shall be able to dispense with the discussion of a great many other questions, such as "How can we retain our elder scholars in the school?" "How shall we be able to interest our classes?" "How shall we do away with absenteeism?" and other questions that come up constantly in our conventions. All these questions, I think, will be answered when we accomplish that work of making the teachers attractive teachers because they really do teach something. I will not detain you longer. Abler speakers than I, by far, are to succeed me and I will leave the time to them. Let me again thank you very much indeed for the honor which you have done me, and ask you to pray that through the blessing of the Holy Spirit we may be able in this Convention, in the short time we are together, to do something for the advancement of the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. It is in my heart to welcome you all, but the Committee have made a much wiser choice in this respect, and left that matter in far abler hands than mine, namely, those of Rev. Dr. Burns, whom I will now call upon to deliver the address of welcome.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

Rev. Dr. BURNS, President of the Wesleyan Ladies' College, Hamilton, then delivered the address of welcome. He said: "Mr. President, first let me assure you that we, who know you best, know that no mistake has been made in putting you in that chair; we are thoroughly satisfied with the appointment; we appreciate it at its worth, and it is worth one hundred cents on the dollar to us every day in the year, and I am only uttering the sentiment of everybody in this house who knows Mr. George Rutherford when I say that we are glad and proud to have such a man in our city to take the position. I thank you for the honor you do me in choosing me to present the address of welcome to such a body as is now before me. I see the date 1865 on the programme sent round: that added a little to my stock of information regarding the Association, for I was ignorant of that fact until this afternoon I looked at the programme and saw on it 1865, and this being 1886, I saw that that meant twenty-one years of age. Now, these twenty-one years mean a good deal, and this Association comes back to this city after the lapse of that time with the experience of its maturity upon it, and inasmuch as you have had one of the best men in our province for, I believe, your General Secretary, and who, I see, is going to conduct an institute at this Convention wherein he will give us the results of his own extensive and rich experience, Bible teaching, and the management of Sunday-schools, I am sure that there

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