

fields from which its living and lasting members are drawn. Indeed, it would be a rare thing now to meet with any congregation of believers that has not its S. School. It is an interesting feature in church building now that not only are such edifices ample and comfortable for the public ministry of the Word, and for the other services of the Church, but they are erected with a due regard to school accommodation; and in our cities and towns not only is the school above ground as it should be; not only is there a sufficient and bright and comfortably seated school room for all, but the addition of class rooms. Indeed, such an object is it now to make the S. School work inviting to both teachers and scholars, that it has become the business of some and their source of maintenance, to manufacture furniture for S. Schools—on this I need not enlarge.

Am I asked what is the distinguishing feature of S. School work now—where has it attained to—what may be regarded as its last attainment—what is its present advancement? I would say *normal classes*. Our S. S. Conventions have specially taught those who have attended them that there should be a wisely arranged and connected course of lessons—that teachers must study if they would teach—that most important is it that there be teachers' meetings for conference on the lesson—that reviewing the lessons with the school is most desirable—that teaching is not preaching—the art of gaining and retaining attention—of asking questions should be attended to—and that as teaching is really a science, teachers may be taught what to teach and how to teach. For this purpose and end, normal classes are being instituted. This matter was taken up at the Provincial S. S. Convention at Guelph, and so important is it now regarded to be, that the Provincial Association has it in hand to address the colleges, requesting them “that in view of the facts that the S. School work is an absolute necessity; that its influence is permeating society—is sowing the seed of an extensive harvest—vesting both to the church and the country—is to a large extent laying the foundation of the religious and national character of the future; and is receiving unmistakable marks of the Divine approval.”

The late convention unanimously adopted a resolution which proposes—“That our Theological Institutions and Ladies' Colleges take measures to meet the felt want of persons as normal class instructors, and either add a department on S. S. work, or so reconstruct their curriculum as to give such a place to the