

THE WAY OF THE WORLD.

HERE sat a crow on a lofty tree,
Watching the world go by;
He saw a throng that swept along
With laughter loud and high.
"In and out through the motley rout"
Pale ghosts stole on unseen,
The hearts were longing for one sweet word
Of the love that once had been,
But never a lip there spoke their names,
Never a tear was shed;
The crow looked down from his lofty tree,
"Tis the way of the world," he said.

A singer stood in the market-place,
Singing a tender lay,
But no one heeded his sorrowful face,
No one had time to stay.
He turned away, he sang no more,
How could he sing in vain?
And then the world came to his door,
Bidding him sing again.
But he recked not whether they came or went,
He in his garret dead.
The crow looked down from his lofty tree,
"Tis the way of the world," he said.

There sat a queen by a cottage bed,
Spake to the widow there;
Did she not know the same hard blow
The peasant had to bear?
And she kissed the humble peasant's brow
And then she bent her knee;
"God of the widow, help her now,
As Thou hast helped me."
"Now, God be thanked," said the old, old
crow,
As he from his lofty bough;
"The times are ill, but there's much good
still!
In the way of the world, I trow."

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Pleasant Hours:

A PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLKS.

Rev. W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor.

TORONTO, OCTOBER 4, 1884.

THE SABBATH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA.

THE Executive Committee beg to announce that the nineteenth annual Provincial Convention will be held in the First Presbyterian Church, Brockville, on the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd of October, 1884.

A cordial invitation is extended to the Convention by the christian people of Brockville, and it is expected that from its favourable location to the Ottawa Valley, its nearness to the boundaries of the Province of Ontario and Quebec, and its railway facilities from all points, that it will be largely attended.

The Executive Committee have left nothing undone to make it a season of great helpfulness to all the delegates who may be present.



FORT EDMONTON, N. W. T.—(See next page.)

In addition to the Minister, each Sabbath School in Ontario and Quebec is entitled to send one Delegate, and one additional for every fifty pupils over one hundred.

Arrangements have been made with the various Railways, by which, on presenting a Certificate, signed by the General S. S. Secretary, all Delegates will be furnished with a Ticket entitling them to journey to Brockville and return to their homes for one fare and a third. The Railway Certificates will be furnished on application to the Rev. John McEwen, 163 Huron Street, Toronto. The applicant should state by what line or lines he proposes to travel.

The expenses of the ensuing year are estimated at two thousand dollars. County and township organizations, Sabbath Schools, and individuals are solicited to assist in making up this sum.

The executive are pleased to be able to announce that in addition to the distinguished Canadian gentlemen, whose names are on the Programme, they have secured the services of the Rev. R. R. Meredith, D.D., of Boston, who conducts the largest Teacher's Meeting in the world, also Professor E. O. Excell, of Chicago, who is so favourably known as a Soloist and Leader of Sacred Songs at Chautauqua, and who was so highly appreciated at the International Convention, Louisville, will take charge of the Music.

Among other features of the Programme will be the following: Retiring President's Address. Address by the President-elect. Address of Welcome, by Rev. Geo. Burnfield, B.D. Reply, by D. McLean, Esq. Address, "Christ's Spirit and Methods as a Teacher," by Rev. Principal Grant, D.D., of Queen's University. "Sabbath-School Work among the Lowly," Rev. S. B. Barnitz, Superintendent of Missions, in the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Des Moines, Iowa. Institute Exercises, led by Rev. John McEwen, Toronto. "The Bible Lines of Presenting and Propagating Gospel Truth," Rev. R.R. Meredith, D.D., of Boston.

Conference on the Three Conditions of Successful Presentation of the Truth:—Personal Character—Personal Preparation—Personal Fidelity. Rev. S. B. Barnitz, Des Moines, Iowa.

"The late International Convention," Rev. W. H. Withrow, D.D., F.R.S.C., Toronto. The Work of the Association, Rev. J. McEwen. The Treasurer's Report, W. B. McMurrich, Esq. Action on Reports and Consideration of Organization and Extension of the Work. Reports from Counties. "John Wycliffe and his Work," Rev. Principal Sheraton, D.D., Wycliffe College, Toronto. "The Bible the World's Light and Guide," Rev. J. Wood, Ottawa. "The Bible the Teacher's Text-Book," Rev. R. R. Meredith, D.D., of Boston. "Home Life, its Hindrances and Helps," Rev. H. F. Bland, Kingston. "Parental Responsibility and how to meet it," Rev. Dr. O'Meara, Port Hope. "Christ's Precedent for the highest life and usefulness," Rev. F. H. Wallace, B. D., Cobourg. "The Responsibility of the Church to equip young men and women for Sabbath-School Work," Rev. William J. Dey, M.A., Dean of Residence, Presbyterian College, Montreal. "The Responsibility of the Home and the School in securing a higher standard of Christian Manhood," Rev. A. Carman, D.D., Belleville, General Superintendent of the Methodist Church. "The past and future of S. S. Conventions," Rev. A. H. Munro, Peterboro'. "The Workers Consecrated and sent forth," Hon. S. H. Blake, Q. C., Toronto.

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHT HOURS.

IN one day are twenty-four hours. In seven days are one hundred and sixty-eight hours. So many hours in one week, and hours of influence at that. Hours of sleep and hours of working; hours of dreams and hours of experience among the realities of life; hours of doing and hours of idling; hours of reverie and hours of thinking; hours in which the life goes on steadily, and in which the soul grows on steadily—life becoming loftier or baser; the soul improving or deteriorating. O the power of the passing hours!

Sunday-school teacher: You have less than one hour a week for direct labour in the Sunday-school in behalf of your pupils. Only one hour out of one hundred and sixty-eight! And

all the other hours full of power for your hour or against your hour.

What shall you do? You may well ask that question. Much depends upon the answer and your use of the answer.

First of all, put so much energy of truth into that one hour you have, that out of it may sweep, as rays of fire out of the sun, light and force to illuminate and dominate the other hours of the week. Adjust the carbon-point in the Sunday hour that the most remote hours of the secular week may shine because of its special glory.

Teach well. Teach essentials. Teach the heart. Teach with the heart. Illustrate the Sunday lesson by the week-day life, so that Wednesday and Saturday experiences in street or shop may suggest the truth so wisely and effectually spoken at the point of Sunday contact—when God's truth filled an hour with divine light and strength. Teach with a prayerful spirit. Teach with a practical aim. No one can begin to tell how much week-day influence can be packed into a Sunday hour of wise teaching.

Do not rest from your labour of loving care during the one hundred and sixty-seven hours that follow.

The ten long furrows across the field drawn by your busy plough will not guarantee a harvest. More furrows must follow. And then more furrows. And after furrows fill the field—harrow and planter, hand and hoe, keen eye and good care must keep on the work begun in the beginning; and after many a day of waiting will come golden fruits as your reward. So keep up your Sunday solicitude and prayer, and work seven full days, and seven times seven, and seventy times seven, nor even then must you grow negligent. Think of your pupils; pray for them; write to them; visit them; guard the books they read; keep a vigilant care concerning the company they keep. Live for them all the time, and thus will one hour's work at Sunday-school on Sunday touch all the intermediate hours with light, and make radiant the passage from Sunday to Sunday across the sea of secular life as, one of these days, electric lights will mark the steamer's pathway across the Atlantic from shore to shore.—S. S. Journal.