

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

The Convention, of which this pamphlet is a report, was a result, in the providence of God, of the visit, in the years 1893 and 1897, of two deputations from the Keswick Conference in England. The beloved brethren who came to Canada at these times, held Conventions for the deepening of the spiritual life at Ottawa, among other places, and there, as elsewhere, their testimony was signally used of God for blessing to many of His dear children. A deep heart-yearning was thus created in many lives in Ottawa for fresher and larger experiences of divine grace and power, and ultimately it was laid upon the hearts of not a few to offer special prayer for such further manifestations of grace, through the Lord's servants, as God might be pleased to give. Early in the year 1898 the Rev. Edward T. Reed, of Warrington, England, who at that time was temporarily filling a pastorate in Ottawa, and who had attended several of the Keswick Conventions, decided to hold a series of meetings on similar lines. As a direct outcome of these gatherings a Committee was formed and finally a Convention was arranged for and held at the time appointed.

The meetings had been preceded by an unusual amount of prayer, and for this reason the speakers felt from the first a large liberty of access to the hearts and lives of their hearers. Blessing was realized, therefore, from the beginning of the services, and the days of the Convention proved to be "times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord." Few who were present will forget the holy calm which surrounded the gatherings. It was the deep, conscious realization of many, that the Lord was in the midst, and that His hand were outstretched to bless.

The members of the Committee had arranged that shorthand notes should be taken of the addresses, and finally determined, since the testimonies had been blessed of God to those present, to have them printed, in the hope that they might become a means of grace to other souls. This is the alone cause of this pamphlet being published; and it is now sent forth by the Convention Committee with the prayer that the deeper life of which it testifies—the life which is hid through Christ in God, and which may thus find its constant abiding place in Him—may become more realized by those who read its pages.