

WELCOME MEETING.

The Welcome Meeting was held in Richmond St. Wesleyan Methodist Church opening at 7 30 p.m.; the Church was crowded to its utmost capacity—the platform was occupied by many of the ministers and leading laymen of the city.

Rev. Geo. Cochran, pastor of the church, conducted the opening devotional exercises.

The Hymn "Oh for a thousand tongues to sing" was sung, Mr. Cochran read the 2nd chapter of 1st Epistle of John—and Rev. Wm. J. Hunter lead in prayer.

Daniel Wilson, L.L.D. President of the Toronto Y. M. C. A. then took the chair and after referring to the absence of the Hon. G. W. Allan, who was prevented by illness from presiding at the meeting this evening, proceeded to give an address of welcome to the delegates.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

They assembled here to-night as a Convention, to inaugurate a united action of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, preparatory, as he trusted, to a comprehensive union that shall embrace the whole Dominion. The student of nature witnessed everywhere unceasing energy, constant action and re-action, but no waste of force. The very disintegration of the rocks, and the sweeping away of the solid land by the unresting sea, were but the processes by which Nature was preparing to build up new continents; or to store away for future generations the spoils wrested from unoccupied wastes, like the treasured fuel which is now the wealth of nations, but which was the waste debris of our earth ere man was called into being.

There is no waste of force in the natural world, for its law-giver and administrator is God himself. But in the moral world how different is it. The wondrous powers of reasoning and far-seeing intelligence, and all the vigorous energies of youth, are everywhere seen, not only running to waste, but directly enlisted in the product of evil. Man made in the divine image, defaces and ruins that work on which, when God first looked, He pronounced it to be very good. What a wondrous change would result if all the youthful energies of this new Dominion could be expended in harmony with the divine will; and the young men of Canada enlisted as one united phalanx, banded together as faithful soldiers and servants of Christ. This is the object at which this Convention aims; and the co-operation of all who sympathise in such an aim is earnestly invited, to extend its operations; until the pure and lofty principles which it aims at diffusing, may make themselves manifest in our social, commercial, and political life; and our young Dominion may prove not in name only but in deed, a Christian land.

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