

they spoke and well. Fresh from the business sessions of the International Executive Committee, their advice was well timed. Overflowing with the desire to see many accompany them on their fast hastening departure, the enthusiasm they kindled did not only sparkle but flame. News they brought of organizations of district alliances in provinces not situated conveniently to the central body ; also of a grand convention to be held next spring in Ohio, most central point of North America, where hundreds, perhaps thousands, are to gather in conclave about this work. The Alliance endorsed it by forthwith appointing delegates. Then the history of the five thousand so far was instructive. They are preparing ; very few have fallen away. They are calling to the societies for means to send them forth. Many are determined never to stay at home but somehow to make the journey across the broad sea and settle in the distant land.

On Sunday night, in the American Presbyterian church, at the final meeting, after an eloquent sermon on John i, 51, these gentlemen in turn gave addresses. The clock neared ten but no one wearied. The old, old story is the sweetest. No loud blatant talk provoking a howling enthusiasm was given. But forcible convincing Biblical arguments and conclusions were numerous presented. Mr. Cossum's history of the movement he is identified with, being new to the city people and of absorbing interest to the students, awoke earnest attention. Mr. Mott following with vivid pictures of the unevangelized world's need, with quotations of our Lord's plain words, with soul-searching appeals not only sustained the attention but carried it upward to a culmination. The best eloquence is that of quiet earnest conviction and that alone was employed. The crowded house were a unit in sentiment for one evening at least.

Now what use are conventions? So many ask. They look from a distance very much like a mechanical means of inspiration. What matter of the means if the inspiration be sincere? Warmth is the result of numbers in touch, friction generates dissipated heat, contract a salutary warmth. No one who believes in missions and who understands the significance of the apostles' assemblies and congregational gatherings should oppose alliances and conventions. And certainly no one however sceptical who has attended such a meeting as gathered a fortnight ago in Montreal retains any longer a doubtful opinion as to their good effect upon those attending. When the