

if we take the two hundred and fifty thousand children that never come within the Sunday School we must add to that a large number, and we have virtually fifty per cent. of our children that we have not yet touched. The work before us, therefore, is enormous; it is work to the individual, it is work to the organization; and it is work that, if it is to be performed, we must not slacken, but we must put on the armor; we must gird ourselves, and in God's strength go forth to this work. Now, what are we to bear away with us from this Convention this evening? You have had a lesson as to our Bible; the Bible has been exalted; as to our lesson helps, and those have been dealt with rightly. The best methods and true modes of teaching teachers' meetings, has been brought before you and put in its proper place. Then you have had the mode of dealing with the adult, with the intermediate, the mode of dealing with the primary classes. You have had the boys' brigade. You have had the uncared-for children; you have had the benefit of association in our work; and you had given to you a description of the World's Convention. I am glad that all through there has been the spirit of hope. I am glad that, instead of there being a need for any new inspiration, for which so many people are looking, here and there, we have the grand old inspiration of God's Word. We have the grand inspiration of the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ. We have the grand inspiration of the preciousness and the full efficacy of that atonement. My friends, what we want is the application of this grand old inspiration, instead of any fresh or new inspiration. And the question is, whether there is not to go forth through the length and breadth of this land, the voice of the absolute sufficiency of this inspiration, this Word, intended to do God's work; and we are to lift it up, and we are to present it as it has never been presented before? Now, I want to say a word upon that. I just want that we shall go away with this idea: "What is our aim?" The Lord Jesus Christ came down here to give life, and the aim of all Sunday School teaching must be to give life. If life be not given, then the teaching is useless. Our Lord says He came to give light and life. In this Word it is written, "These are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing, ye might have life through His name" (John xx. 31). That was brought out, as nobody else could bring it out, by our friend Mr. Reynolds, in his class for eighteen months, and yet still not knowing whether those scholars were dead or were alive. The Lord Jesus Christ came down, building up this kingdom of His, to take the dead and give them life; and life is the great object of all Sunday School teaching. Now, I think we might all take to ourselves as a motto, what we have on this leaflet, "Reaching forth unto those things which are before." Not at all satisfied with the work done as we stand here, but "reaching forth unto those things that are before;" "reaching forth unto those things that are before"

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