

and hearts grow tender and loving, and lean up against each other, and are thereby in unison; and they feel a consciousness that not again will they all face each other here; it is impossible that ever just this assemblage should be gathered together again. It would be possible, but it has not the slightest shade of probability, that it could be done to-morrow, much less a year from now. And so it has come that there comes with the closing of the Convention a tremendous pressure upon the heart that sets home to the soul every good thing, and crowds out that which is only chaff, retaining the wheat. The closing session of a Convention nowadays is a winnowing mill, which drives out that which is light and worthless, and drops the pure grain into the garner for use. And what use are you going to make of this Convention, with all its sweet influences, with all its instruction, with all its songs, with all its lessons, with its touching of heart, with its kindling enthusiasm, firing of zeal—what are you going to do with it? Leave it here as you leave the hymn-books in the seats? That is too often done. I beg of you that you gather up the fragments, that nothing may be lost which is worth saving; that you take them with you, and then do your best, praying to God in the spirit of these mottoes, “Teach me *Thy* way, O Lord”—not man’s way; and then looking to the golden promise which is written over there on crimson, of Christ’s blood, “I will instruct thee and teach thee.” So He will. But for all these things He will be inquired of, and He will not instruct thee and teach thee unless thou askest Him; and you need to ask continually. Go from this place, then, to your Sunday Schools and to your homes. Don’t confine these influences to mere Sunday School work. Whatever is fit to use in our Sunday School, is fit to use in our Christian work; and whatever is unfit to use in other Christian work, I beseech you to remember, is unfit to use in this part of religious work. It has been thought that various means and appliances might be introduced into the Sunday School, of a secular nature, on the Sabbath, which would be very improper in what would be called a religious meeting; and in many classes, if you speak of a religious meeting, they would stare at you. Our Sunday Schools need to be made religious meetings more than ever. With the spirit of consecration in teachers, add prayer and supplication daily, and diligent application to all the truths God has taught us. So go from this place, carrying into not only the Sunday School, but into your prayer-meetings and church meetings, into your home circle, by the fireside, everything that you have found here that was of value; and then the reflex influence will be great, it will be wonderful. I have enjoyed this Convention more than I can tell you. I always enjoy Canada Conventions. I say it from the heart; I do not say it to curry favour with Canada people. Thank God, I have had no occasion to curry favour with them. They have borne with me, and forgiven me for saying pretty sharp things. I was almost amazed that they did forgive it; but somehow they take stock