

Right Rev. Bishop Baldwin, explaining the reasons which prevented him taking his place among his brethren in the Lord. It was a matter of regret that Mr. Arnold had not longer notice of Sir R. Phayre's failure, so that he might have been at this Conference. The Secretary alluded to several eminent men who had been invited to take part in the Conference, but who, from a variety of reasons, had found it impossible to accede to the request of the Programme Committee; among whom were Rt. Rev. Bishop Bond, Rev. W. M. Taylor, D.D., Rev. Dr. Duryea, Rev. Dr. Pierson, of Philadelphia, and others.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS.

SIR WILLIAM DAWSON, C.M.G., MONTREAL.

The Montreal Branch has ventured to take the responsibility of this Conference, because the last Canadian Convention of the Alliance was held in this city in 1874, and because here, as in an outpost of Protestantism, the need of a Dominion Alliance is most acutely felt. The great end of the promoters of this Conference is the reorganization of the Dominion Alliance, and to give a new impetus to the general religious movement on the part of Protestants.

In such a meeting it becomes us in the first place, like the Israelites when Samuel gathered them at Mizpah, to confess our past shortcomings and want of efficiency, and to humble ourselves before God. We have certainly failed in duty in our long inaction in the matter of the Evangelical Alliance. It is our next business to consider with care the best means of united action against the evils of the time, and this in a spirit of love to all and enmity to none. Our weapons must be spiritual rather than carnal, and we must contend against evil principles and systems and not against persons. With reference to the former, whether they are infidel or anti-Christian, it is necessary to bear in mind that, however diverse in operation, they are one in aim. The men who deny God and disparage divine revelation are practically on the same side with those who supersede God and Christ by other rulers and mediators, and who withhold the Bible from the people. Nothing is more obvious in our time than that the emissaries of the powers symbolized in Scripture by the "Dragon, the Beast and the False Prophet," are all employed in gathering