

INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS.

In complying with the request to introduce the following Report of the Fifth Provincial Sabbath School Convention, it is due to say, that in no place where similar conventions have been held, have the arrangements for the comfort of delegates and visitors, and the despatch of business, been more complete than on the late occasion. For these we are indebted to the Local Committees. For much that is so pleasant in the recollection, and so valuable to those who came to be instructed, we would render our grateful acknowledgements.

It is feared that some may have felt themselves straitened, by the entire order of services and exercises being pre-arranged, and by the whole of the time being apportioned before the Convention commenced its sittings, so that there was no interval or opportunity for introducing subjects they may have deemed important. It is believed that the result has been, that all were gainers by the plan adopted, and the wisdom of the Executive was displayed in that the greater part of the three days was occupied in opening up and discussing subjects thoroughly practical, and most important to Sabbath School Teachers.

Much of the time was rightly given to our own *Canadian S. S. Advocates and Instructors*. We are thankful for such a staff as the venerable Bishop Richardson, the Rev. Drs. Ormiston, Caldicott and Cocker, the Revs. J. Wood W. Cochrane, M.A. and John McDonald, Esq., brethren who so ably introduced the subjects allotted them. We may be excused for not making mention of others, who though more limited in time, were a valuable auxiliary to the Convention. The subjects were ably opened up, and intelligently discussed, and the resolutions adopted embrace the principal conclusions arrived at.

To our *American friends*, and especially to the Revs. J. H. Vincent and Dr. Duryea, we are deeply indebted for their sound teaching, practical examples, and christian eloquence; the lessons they gave, will, we believe, not only be long remembered, but reduced to practice by many. We hope to see the "*Reform*," so ably advocated, carried out. We cannot suppose that the attendants on this Convention, can have returned to their schools, and churches without increased love of the work, and increasing usefulness in their several spheres of christian duty.—May this be the blessed result. May the responsibility realized, as stewards, be equal to the benefit received, and that which was commended to the conscience, be reduced to practice.