

distribute illuminated cards *ad libitum*, and elegant scent sachets, not quite so freely, but on a liberal scale. Other houses generously donate specimen copies of their Sunday School papers and the like to all comers.

The evening session was addressed by Dr. John Hall, of New York, a man whose noble presence, catholic sentiments and eloquent utterances, mark him as a king among men. B. F. Jacobs, of Illinois, the originator of the International Lesson Scheme, delivered a fervid address on the topic which was so near his heart. The large hall was densely crowded and the utmost enthusiasm prevailed. Translations of the Berean Leaf into Chinese and Hindoostanee were exhibited.

On Wednesday the topic of discussion was, "How to secure pupils from the unevangelized masses," opened by Rev. W. T. Wylie, of Pennsylvania. Our friend Andrews, of Tilsenburgh, gave an eloquent address, as also did Mr. Millard on a previous occasion, in reporting the state of the work in Canada. The blended humour and pathos of the Western men was very striking, moving the immense audience to laughter and tears. No time may be wasted in exordia or perorations, as most of the speeches are confined to five minutes each. The singing is a marked feature of the Convention. A beautiful selection of over eighty hymns has been printed, and an effective leader makes this one of the most interesting and profitable parts of the services.

It is extraordinary what a hold this Sunday School work has taken upon the public mind of Christendom. The amount of time and talent, and thought and money that are devoted to it are producing most remarkable practical results. Many of the ablest men, clerical and lay, of the United States, devote themselves with a

passionate enthusiasm to Sunday School endeavour. All classes and ranks of society are represented on the floor of the Convention. Ex-Generals, Ex-Colonels, Judges, Legislators, Merchants, Planters, Farmers, Doctors of Divinity, of Medicine, and of Law, all engage in loving zeal in this great work. Where so many and such varied excellences are manifested, it seems almost invidious to mention any; but certainly no one commands the attention of the audience, or is listened to with more rapt interest than Dr. Vincent, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Editor of the admirable Lesson Notes, adopted in our own *Sunday School Banner*. The topic which, more than anything else, has occupied the time and thought of the Convention has been, "How shall we improve the teaching power of Sunday School workers?" On this subject Dr. Vincent is enthusiastic. He has established a special magazine, called the *Normal Class*, and he delivered an exhaustive address on the importance and necessity of having Sunday School teachers as thoroughly equipped for their work as secular teachers are. In many Theological Institutions, Ladies' Seminaries, and other Institutions of learning, classes are formed for training in the work of Sunday School teaching. A course of study in Biblical Evidences and Exegesis is gone through, and Diplomas are awarded to those who successfully complete the course. In New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, and other large cities, classes of hundreds of teachers assemble under the instruction of the ablest biblical scholars to be found, and many persons travel weekly as much as eighty miles to avail themselves of these instructions. The effects of such organized effort, accompanied by fervent prayer and faith in God, will simply be incalculable. Thus shall the rising generation be fitted to encounter the skeptical tendencies of