

RETIRING PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

His Honor, Judge Jones, then delivered the following address:—

DEAR FELLOW SABBATH SCHOOL WORKERS :—It is with devout thankfulness to God that I congratulate you on our being spared again to see and greet each other in this our twelfth Sabbath School Convention. While many of our fellow-workers have gone to their reward, we are spared to toil on a little longer in the Master's service.

We have again come together to compare notes as to the past, and to take counsel as to the future; and while some may have come here cast down and discouraged in their work, others, more buoyant in spirit, are here to tell us of their victories and triumphs, and their joy and confidence will be an inspiration to the others. As we look to the presence and guidance of the Master, we may boldly say, "in the name of our God we will set up our banners."

I am glad that we are privileged to meet in this beautiful and prosperous city, and with you am thankful for the earnest, hearty, christian welcome that has been tendered to us. To me personally it is a great pleasure to meet dear friends among the Sabbath School workers of Hamilton. Many very pleasant years of my life were spent in this city, and memory recalls happy days and hallowed scenes in the long by-gone years. There is to every follower of Christ a time, and to many a particular spot, to which he can look back and say, "It was then and there that God, for Christ's sake pardoned my sins." Hamilton is endeared to me as the place where, twenty-five years ago, this great mercy found and rescued me.

Our good Secretary has reminded us in his circular calling us together, that ten years ago at the Convention then held in this city, the Sabbath School Association of Canada was organized. That was the day, (not to be despised) of small things, and now we can look back on the labors and triumphs of the past, and say, "What has God wrought?" Not only in this our loved land, but throughout the great christian nation south of us, and in the land of our brethren and fathers over the sea, this great cause has been gathering strength and achieving victories.

These associations and conventions for the promotion of Sabbath School work, and for the salvation of the dear children have not only been a bond of union among the churches of the land, but among the nations of the earth. At the International Sabbath School Convention at Baltimore, of which we shall hear from the brethren deputed to speak to us on that subject, there were assembled delegates from the north and south, from the east and west of this vast continent, and also from the christian nations beyond the sea.