

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

THIRD

Sunday School Convention

OF THE

MARITIME PROVINCES,

HELD AT CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND,

AUGUST 14, 15, & 16, 1873.

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W. B. McNUTT, ESQ., PRESIDENT.

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CHARLOTTETOWN:

BREMNER BROTHERS, PRINTERS, 44 QUEEN STREET.

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**N.A.**

*Baptist.*

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E. D. Kin  
N. M. Cro  
Geo. J. C  
Charles S  
James De  
John Gor  
George M  
Wm. G. G  
W. Warw

*Bible Christian.*  
John J. F

*Congregational.*

T. B. De

*Episcopal.*

Charles F  
F. W. Hal

*Methodist.*

J. M. DeV  
J. Eckersl  
Miss L. F  
Edward J  
W. B. Mc  
Hon. S. I  
W. J. Sw  
Thomas A  
W. Powe  
Howard I  
H. Harpe  
John R. I  
J. W. Wh  
B. Balder  
John Bee  
Wm. Bro  
H. J. Cal  
George F  
W. C. Tro  
Judge Yo  
J. D. Sae  
H. Truem

## NAMES OF DELEGATES.

*Baptist.*

J. Burgoyne, Halifax, N. S.  
 E. D. King, " "  
 N. M. Crosby, Yarmouth, N. S.  
 Geo. J. Creed, Rawdon, "  
 Charles Soley, Truro, "  
 James DesBrisay, Charlottetown, P. E. I.  
 John Gordon, Montague, "  
 George McNeill, Cavendish, "  
 Wm. G. Gaunce, Fredericton, N. B.  
 W. Warwick, St. John, "

*Bible Christian.*

John J. Ferguson, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

*Congregational.*

T. B. Dennis, Yarmouth, N. S.

*Episcopal.*

Charles Palmer, Charlottetown, P. E. I.  
 F. W. Hales, " "

*Methodist.*

J. M. DeWolfe, Halifax, N. S.  
 J. Eckersly, " "  
 Miss L. Hood, " "  
 Edward Jost, " "  
 W. B. McNutt, " "  
 Hon. S. L. Shannon, Halifax, N. S.  
 W. J. Sweet, " "  
 Thomas Allen, Yarmouth, "  
 W. Power, " "  
 Howard Hamilton, Picton, "  
 H. Harper, Pleasant Grove, "  
 John R. Palmer, Aylesford, "  
 J. W. Whitman, Lawrencetown, "  
 B. Balderston, North River, "  
 John Beer, Centreville, P. E. I.  
 Wm. Brown, Charlottetown, P. E. I.  
 H. J. Callbeck, " "  
 George Full, " "  
 W. C. Trowan, " "  
 Judge Young, " "  
 J. D. Saemen, Little York, "  
 H. Trueman, Searlton, "

A. Blackslee, St. John, N. B.  
 H. Coperwhaite, Jacksonville, N. B.  
 John Faucett, Sackville, " "  
 J. J. Macgowan, Moncton, " "

*Presbyterian.*

P. P. Archibald, Halifax, N. S.  
 M. Bethune, " "  
 George Campbell " "  
 John Cook, " "  
 Alexander Campbell, " "  
 John Grierson, " "  
 M. M. Lindsay, " "  
 J. S. McLean, " "  
 McNaughton, " "  
 A. Patterson, " "  
 John Baird, Onslow, " "  
 Miss M. Bayne, Pictou, " "  
 John Chisholm, " "  
 James Stalker, " "  
 Thomas Graham, New Glasgow, N. S.  
 Isaac Matheson, " "  
 R. S. McCurdy, " "  
 Daniel C. Rose, " "  
 Donald Ross, " "  
 G. Underwood, " "  
 Hon. S. Creelman, Stewiacke, " "  
 Peter J. Grant, Springville, " "  
 Nathan Hilton, Yarmouth, " "  
 Laurence Miller, Green Hill, " "  
 J. A. Meek, Windsor, " "  
 W. F. Meek, Shubenacadie, " "  
 John McLean, Goldenville, " "  
 A. A. Pinneo, Cornwallis, " "  
 David Smith, Clifton, " "  
 J. J. Stramberg, River John, " "  
 T. A. White, Gay's River, " "  
 W. H. Waddell, Dartmouth, " "  
 C. McKinnon, Sydney, C. B.  
 Professor A. Anderson, Charlottetown, P. E. I.  
 Archibald Kennedy " "  
 W. D. Stewart, " "  
 R. M. Barratt, " "  
 Samuel Brown, Stanley Bridge, " "  
 John Simpson, New London, " "  
 Robert Gordon, Alberton, " "  
 James Ramsay, Princetown, " "  
 Hon. James Muirhead, Summerside, " "

John McL  
 A. C. Stev  
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 S. C. Hun

*Bible Christian.*

Rev. G. W

*Episcopal.*

Rev. J. C.

*Methodist.*

Rev. J. A

D. D

A. L

*Presbyterian.*

Rev. G. M

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*Visiting Delegation.*

Rev. Dr.

R. C. Mor

Hon. J. H

H. Maye

Rev. J. H

Joseph Li

*Members of Executive.*

J. S. McL

W. B. Mc

Judge Y

G. E. Ful

F. W. Ha

A. Kenne

J. Mathes

Hon. S. C

John McLeod, Strathalbyn, P. E. I.  
 A. C. Stewart, Georgetown, “  
 John McNeill, Cavendish, “  
 S. C. Hunter, St. John, N. B.

## CLERGYMEN.

*Bible Christian.*

Rev. G. Webber, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

*Episcopal.*

Rev. J. C. Cox, New London, “

*Methodist.*

Rev. J. Astbury, Union Road, “  
 D. D. Currie, Charlottetown, “  
 A. Lucas, Souris, “

*Presbyterian.*

Rev. G. M. Grant, Halifax, N. S.  
 A. Glendinning, “ “  
 J. Bayne, D.D., Pictou, “  
 A. L. Wyllie, Londonderry, N. S.  
 Thomas Duncan, Charlottetown, P. E. I.  
 J. M. McLeod, “ “  
 Henry Crawford, St. Peter's, “  
 Robert Laird, Princetown, “  
 P. Melville, M. A. Georgetown, “  
 John Murray, New London, “

*Visiting Delegates.*

Rev. Dr. Bell, Niagara,  
 R. C. Morse, New York,  
 Hon. J. Hill, “  
 H. Maye, St. John, N. B.  
 Rev. J. Hogg, “ “  
 Joseph Little (denomination not reported), Salisbury, N.B.


*Members of Executive Committee of 1872 present.*

J. S. McLean, Halifax, N. S.  
 W. B. McNutt, “ “  
 Judge Young, Charlottetown, P. E. I.  
 G. E. Full, “ “  
 F. W. Hales, “ “  
 A. Kennedy, “ “  
 J. Matheson New Glasgow, N. S.  
 Hon. S. Creelman, Stewiacke, “



THIRD ANNUAL  
SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

FIRST SESSION.

HE THIRD ANNUAL SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION of the Maritime Provinces met in Zion Church, Charlottetown, P. E. Island, on Thursday, August 14, 1873.

The Convention assembled at 2½ o'clock, P. M., and spent half-an-hour in Devotional Exercises, conducted by Judge Young, Vice President.

At 3 o'clock, J. S. McLean, Esq., President of the last Convention, took the chair and called the meeting to order.

On motion, R. M. Barratt, of Charlottetown, was chosen Temporary Secretary.

The President, after offering some appropriate remarks, expressive of gratitude to God for his preserving care during the past year, and urging a prompt despatch of business and the cultivation of a brotherly spirit, declared the meeting open for business.

On motion, a committee on organization was appointed, who subsequently reported, recommending the following officers for the Convention, which report was adopted, and is as follows:—

*President.*

W. B. McNUTT, Esq., Halifax, N. S.

*Vice Presidents.*

W. WARWICK, Esq., St. John, N. B.  
 F. W. HALES, Esq., Charlottetown, P. E. I.  
 N. HILTON, Esq., Yarmouth, N. S.  
 ISAAC MATHESON, Esq., New Glasgow, N. S.  
 A. C. STEWART, Esq., Georgetown, P. E. I.

*Secretaries.*

R. M. BARRATT, Charlottetown, P. E. I.  
 T. B. DENNIS, Yarmouth, N. S.  
 W. F. MEEK, Shubenacadie, N. S.

*Treasurer.*

ISAAC MATHESON, New Glasgow, N. S.

The retiring President briefly addressed the Convention, thanking them for the confidence and support accorded him. The hymn was then sung, "Blest be the tie," and the retiring President led in prayer.

The President elect was conducted to his seat by Charles Palmer, Esq., of Charlottetown, and the Hon. S. L. Shannon, of Halifax, and the other officers assumed their respective posts.

The President, on taking the chair, in a short address, thanked the Convention for the honor they had done him, and urged a due regard on the part of those present to the high and important objects that called them together.

The President then appointed the following committees, viz:

On Credentials, Business, and Devotion.

Read communication from the Presbytery of P. E. Island, in connection with the P. C. L.P., tendering to the Convention a cordial welcome.

Also one from the Kirk Presbytery's committee on Sabbath Schools. On motion, ordered that these communications be spread upon the minutes. (*See Appendix.*)

The Presi  
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The President read a note from Judge Young, inviting the Members of the Convention to take tea with him this evening, at 6 o'clock.

On motion, the invitation was cordially accepted.

The Business Committee reported. Report adopted. Verbal reports were then given in by the following Superintendents and Delegates regarding their respective Schools:—J. Grierson, and Hon. S. L. Shannon, of Halifax; N. Hilton, Crosby, and T. B. Dennis, Yarmouth; J. Matheson, New Glasgow; James Stalker, Pictou; Hon. S. Creelman, Stewiacke; Stramburg, River John; and George J. Creed, Rawdon, N. S.; White, of St. John; Little, of Westmoreland; and Coperwhaite, of Woodstock, N. B.; W. D. Stewart, Charlottetown; Rev. Henry Crawford, St. Peters; Rev. P. Melville, Georgetown; Rev. John Murray, New London, and McNeill, Cavendish, P. E. Island. The importance of retaining the older Scholars in the School, the advantages of the uniform lesson system, and the looking for the conversion of the Scholars, were some among the more prominent subjects referred to.

The Devotional Committee reported, report adopted.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the session was closed with singing and prayer.

#### WELCOME MEETING.

The Welcome Meeting of Delegates was held in the Wesleyan Chapel, at half-past seven, on Thursday evening, Judge Young presiding—Rev. T. Duncan led the Devotional exercises. The Chairman briefly addressed the Members of the Convention. We welcome you, he said, to our hearts, as we have received you into our homes. The first Convention, held in St. John, two years ago, was a great success,

the second, held last year, in New Glasgow, was a grand success, and I trust the one now assembled will be a brilliant success, and that God will abundantly bless you and the Schools which you represent.

Charles Palmer, Esq., welcomed the Convention on behalf of P. E. Island.—“You come representing various sects of christianity. But you are unanimous in this, that you may help us to bring our children to the Saviour. I am sure your collective wisdom will instruct us in many things which we ought to know. I hope much good will be the result. These Conventions, I believe, are fraught with good.” Rev. Mr. Webber spoke in behalf of the clergy of P. E. Island.—“The aims of the Sabbath School workers are in perfect agreement with the aims and purposes of all true Ministers. Their aims and ends are one, though the methods are different, and that only as to the class of minds with which they come in contact. But the one purpose of every teacher is to lead the soul to Christ, and for this and many other reasons we give you a hearty welcome.” F. W. Hales, Esq., President of the Sunday School Union, Charlottetown, on behalf of the Union, most cordially tendered the Convention the warmest welcome.—“We welcome you with the true, earnest longing that we may derive much benefit from your presence. We hope you will be able to give us some of the information which we need. Give us all you know; and we will do the same to you, as far as we are able. Rev. D. D. Currie welcomed the Convention on behalf of the children of our Sabbath Schools. We welcome you among us for the purpose of pleasure. We need to rest. There is no better spot for this than this beautiful Island. If you had come to benefit adults in advancing the cause of Temperance, Bible circulation, or Missionary So-

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cieties, we would welcome you : how much more when your object is to benefit the young. Rev. Dr. Bell, of Niagara Falls, Ontario, said, I present the greetings of Ontario, and also the greetings of the Sabbath Schools of Quebec to the Convention met here to-night. We have for years been holding Conventions in these places. I have been asked what is the great use of the Sabbath School. My idea is, it is God's church engaged in teaching God's truth, not only for the conversion of the soul, but for building it up in knowledge and holiness also. Not till we see the whole church engaged in this work will we be satisfied that we have attained our true position. As to age, I would not set limits. I think that children from three years old, up to eighty, should be included. We shall never see the Sabbath School in its true position till we see children old enough to be parents, and onwards to the end of life, kept in Sabbath Schools.

Hon. S. L. Shannon, Halifax, thanked the audience for the welcome accorded to the Convention. The cordial welcome given to the Delegates showed them that the inhabitants of Charlottetown were as deeply interested in this good work as themselves. Though there were discouragements in the work, yet there were great encouragements. All need to be more earnest in this work. He regretted that there seemed to be a restlessness, and a desire to go away. There was, therefore, all the more need to be earnest in teaching the children. If they went away with the love of Jesus in their hearts, they not only obtained a blessing themselves, but they would be the means of blessing others.

Rev. G. M. Grant, Halifax, also responded to the welcome. He knew the welcome to be sincere, for he had been in this Island before. No work is half so good as blessed

harmonious labor. We come here just because we feel how great and difficult our work is. The record of it has been a record of failures. We are only beginning to understand the nature of our work. We come to take counsel with each other. We meet in these Conventions because we see in the work of Sunday Schools more hope for the union of christendom than otherwise. If you find that the young are being trained in the knowledge and fear of the Lord, then there is hope for the country.

The addresses were interspersed with some beautiful singing by the choir, composed of members from the different churches. At half-past ten, Rev. Dr. Bayne pronounced the benediction, and the large audience retired evidently highly pleased.

#### SECOND SESSION.

Friday Morning, August 15, 1873.

The Convention assembled in Zion Church at half-past nine o'clock, and engaged in devotional exercises. At 10 o'clock the President took the chair, and called the meeting to order. The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed. On motion, Messrs. R. Gordon, and D. Ramsay, were requested to act as reporters to the Convention. Rev. A. L. Wyllie, Londonderry, N. S., submitted a resolution on County Conventions—referred to Business committee. W. Warwick, St. John, N. B., submitted the circular from the London Sunday School Union in reference to the subject of universal prayer for Sabbath Schools. Referred to Business committee.

Dr. Bayne, Picton, expressed an opinion that the female element should be more utilized at Sabbath School Conventions. He believed that females were the best teachers, particularly for infant classes, and their counsel and advice

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might be of great use to the Convention. He would therefore, submit the following resolution :—

“That the Convention cordially invites all lady Sabbath School teachers, not only to attend the meetings of the Convention, but to communicate therewith, either by writing or otherwise, as they may deem most-fitting.”

After a few remarks by Dr. Bell, Ontario; Balderston, North River; Warwick, St. John, and Creelman, Stewiacke; the resolution was adopted.

The discussion of the question, “How can we retain our old scholars in the school,” was opened by J. Grierson, Esq., Halifax. He said it was a painful fact that we often lost our oldest scholars just when we required them to strengthen our hands and encourage our hearts. It was not the girls, but the boys who left the school. We should have more of the motherly wives and widows, who had looked down deep into human nature, to assist in the school. When the age of twelve or fourteen years was reached, restraint often became irksome to boys. New amusements were sought for, and new influences were brought to bear upon them, which caused anxiety to the faithful parent or teacher. This boy nature was little understood by many workers, and they must look closer into the matter. There was no use complaining. They must try to use that power which would bring them to the Ark of Safety. The church was looking along the pews and saying, “where are our young men?” The Sabbath School was saying “where are our boys?” and the Convention had made that a keynote this morning. These were hopeful signs of the times. There were two sides to the question—the human and the Divine. The fall of man had so hardened the heart that the powers of the Gospel glanced off and produced no im-

pression, but there was one spot left almost untouched. That was the grateful return of love for a kind act. Teachers should use that wisely. When a boy was brought to his mission school, in Halifax, he just fell in love with him at once, and tried to get love returned. Sometimes it was love at first sight, and sometimes it took a year or more. When he could get them to love himself, he could soon get them to love the one he loved best. One boy had run away twelve times, but he followed him—sometimes 100 miles, and now there was none in the world he loved so well as him (Mr. Grierson), and he would work for him for less wages than for any other person. Four years ago he was considered a hopeless case, but a great improvement had taken place, though he could not say that he was yet a believer in Christ. Even from a human point of view much could be done. The other side was God's side, and wh did not recognize that as much as we should. We should remember that "those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of the Lord." The tree was not planted till the life-giving sap went from the root to the topmost twig. Some considered baptism planting, and others confirmation, but there was no real planting till there was a real and vital union with Christ. We must get a firm hold of God. "It is not the will of your Heavenly Father that one of these little ones should perish." Was it our will that they should perish? Surely not! We would not succeed till we got a higher grade of teachers. Our lawyers, doctors, and business men should take more interest in the work.

The following persons followed with brief addresses:—

Rev. Mr. Wyllie; Hon. S. L. Shannon, and Messrs. De Wolfe, Bethune, and Eckersly, Halifax; Matheson and Mc-

Curdy, New Green Hill; Mr. Cox, N. Ontario.

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Curdy, New Glasgow; Trowan, Charlottetown; Millar, Green Hill; Power, Yarmouth; Macgowan, Moncton; Rev. Mr. Cox, New London; Stalker, Pictou, and Dr. Bell, Ontario.

The Business committee presented the following:—"Your committee support the suggestion offered by Brother Warwick of St. John, that the 19th and 20th of October next, be set apart as days for special prayer, on behalf of our Sunday Schools; and that the circular from the London Sunday School Union be adopted and referred to the Executive to be carried into effect. Report unanimously adopted. The President named Mr. Hogg, of St. John, to prepare a resolution for the afternoon Session, embodying the subject discussed this morning. The Treasurer submitted his accounts for the past year, referred to Hon. S. Creelman, and J. Eckersley.

On motion of Charles Palmer, Esq.,—

*Resolved*,—That this Convention accept the use of the Wesleyan chapel kindly offered for our evening meetings.

Closed at half-past twelve o'clock, with Doxology. Rev. G. M. Grant pronouncing the benediction.

### THIRD SESSION.

Friday Afternoon, August 15, 1873.

Meeting assembled in Zion Church, at half-past two o'clock, and engaged in devotional exercises. At 3 o'clock the President took the Chair and called the meeting to order. Secretary read the Minutes of the Morning Session, which were confirmed. Mr. Hogg, St. John, then offered the following resolution, as a summary of the Morning discussion.

"Whereas the fact that many of our Sunday School scholars leave our schools at an age when they are most exposed to temptations, is keenly felt and deplored by this Convention.

*Resolved*.—That superintendents and teachers employ every effort to make our schools attractive, by securing the co-operation of parents, by seeking out and obtaining the help of the most competent teachers, by a diligent and careful preparation of the lessons, by making the young people feel, in the school and out of it, that their teachers are interested in them, and seek their highest good, and by earnest prayer to God that the Holy Spirit may touch their hearts; so that they will receive the truth in the love of it, that they may be saved."

Resolution adopted.

The Question box being opened, was found to contain three questions, which were disposed of as follows: the first to be answered by Dr. Bell, and the second by J. Grierson, at the Evening Session, the third referred to the business committee. The convention then proceeded to fix the place of meeting for the next convention.

On motion of W. Power of Yarmouth, seconded by W. Warwick of St. John, Yarmouth was unanimously adopted as the next place of meeting in 1874, at the call of the Executive committee.

The question—"Teachers' meetings, their necessity, and the best means of conducting them." was opened by J. S. McLean, Esq., Halifax. He said that an experimental teachers' meeting was on the programme in connection with the discussion upon this topic, but after the discussion of the morning he thought it would be unwise to attempt one, and therefore he would give his opinion briefly upon the question and leave the convention to take it up in whatever manner they thought proper. Dr. Bell had given them the idea that the Sabbath School was "the Church doing the work of God." The Apostle said the word was taught by the "foolishness of preaching," and the clergyman who best served his Master was he who, having a clear knowledge of the gospel, taught it in prayer and faithfulness. Sabbath school teachers were next to clergymen, but unless they had

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a thorough experimental knowledge of the doctrines of the Cross, they would not be successful. Having that, they would be aware of their own inability to accomplish any great object merely by their own efforts. Teachers' meetings were very necessary, but they should know how to conduct them. Some incompetent teachers, who had not a thorough knowledge of the truths they were expected to teach, were placed in that position because they were considered too big to be in the class, and their parents wished to have them in the school. How could they teach what they did not know anything about? It was no use to make experimental teachers. There should be some certain evidence that they were acquainted with the great truths of salvation, and had received them into their hearts; before they would be trusted with dear little children. Those conventions proved his position. How many would go home with new desires and aspirations they would not otherwise have had? Teachers' meetings were necessary in order that teachers might become acquainted with each other and with the wants of their classes. The classes would then be arranged to better advantage. They could study the lesson better together. Without such meetings some teachers would not study the lesson at all. The lesson should be studied from sabbath to sabbath. In those meetings teachers were brought to realize their responsibility, and they had their hands strengthened and their hearts encouraged. The music of the school, and various other matters could be arranged at those meetings. How to conduct those meetings was an important part of the question. The Minister should take a lively interest in those meetings, and the superintendent should be the leader of the meeting. There should be no holding back, and if any difference of opinion

arose upon any point it should be settled before the teachers went to the school. The lesson should be made practical. Each teacher should ask questions with reference to the class he or she had to teach. The school should know that they were in earnest. A teacher asked a boy to go to school. He said "no, I have no shoes. You would not go if you had no shoes." "Will you go with me if I take off my shoes?" Yes. The teacher did so; the boy went with him, and he became a minister of the Gospel. That was the spirit teachers should have. If they had that, God would bless them and give them the real joy of saving souls.

The subject was also spoken to by Messrs. Lindsay, Eckersly, Grierson, Patterson, Archibald, King, and Hon. S. L. Shannon, of Halifax; Mr. Underwood, New Glasgow; Rev. R. Laird, Princetown; Mr. Faucett, Sackville; Mr. Woodland, Lawrencetown; J McNeill, Cavendish; N. Hilton, Yarmouth; Rev. Mr. Lucas, Souris; Mr. Simpson, Stanley; R. Gordon, Alberton; Rev. Dr. Bayne, and J. Stalker, Pictou; Brown, New London, and Macgowan, Moncton.

Reports on Sabbath Schools (verbal) were then given by the following delegates: Macgowan, Moncton; McLean, Goldenville; Grant, Fredericton; Faucett, Sackville; King, Halifax; McLeod, Strathalbyn.

After report from the Devotional committee, the meeting closed at half-past five.

#### FOURTH SESSION.

Friday Evening, August 15, 1873.

Convention met in the Wesleyan Chapel, at half-past seven, and engaged in devotional exercises, at 8 o'clock the President took the chair and called the meeting to order.

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Secretary read the minutes of the previous Session, which were confirmed.

The Business committee reported as follows:—

The question referred to your committee, respecting the formation of "Bands of Hope," the committee would point to the resolution of last year, advising the formation of Temperance Societies in Sabbath Schools, and would recommend the confirmation of that resolution by this Convention. Report adopted.

To the enquiry, "what is to be done in a district where there are over two hundred children that ought to be in school, and not a converted teacher to give them instruction? Are all those children to be left without a school?"

Dr. Bell rose and said, as he had been called upon to answer this question, he would say, that in this matter, as well as many others, we are to do the best we can. If a christian minister was pressed by twenty or thirty earnest ones with a petition; "Do give us teachers!" or if a Superintendent goes out and begs and entreats them to come and assist in the work; and if those men and women who should do this work will not come and teach these children—these dear little ones; if those who profess to be believers in Jesus, wish others to teach, but will not do so themselves, then comes the difficulty; what is to be done? To which I will give the advice, take the best men and women you can get to engage to do this work. But can there be in the Dominion of Canada two hundred children in any one locality, and not one christian man or woman in that place, willing to teach them the glorious truths of the gospel? Can it be that there is not one who is willing to stretch out the hand, inviting these children to come to Jesus? I cannot understand where such a place is. I am at a loss to understand

the geographical position of the place so situated. But if there is such a place, then my advice is to go to the nearest place to that locality and make known the fact to them, and when you do so, to such, and on such, a ten-fold-duty will rest to go and teach those children.

To the second part of the question, "are they to be left untaught?" I Will at once say, No, No, never! Never leave one but what must be taught. No one in this convention but what will say, never let there be one person in the Dominion untaught. Yes, dear brethren, let us go on until all in the world are instructed in the knowledge of the Lord. (Applause,)

Mr. Grierson rose to reply to the question:—

"What is the best way to deal with a restless, inattentive scholar who causes confusion in his own class, and the classes around him."

And said. Well, if you have to bear with such a scholar, bear it patiently; bear it meekly. To secure the attention and good order of the scholar, let the teacher see to it that he is himself a pattern of good order and attention. Let each teacher remember he is a pattern in the school whose example the scholar may copy. At the same time, the teacher should remember that a little boys arms and feet must, of necessity, move five times as often as those of full-grown people.

If after you do all you can, and in every respect set a good example yourself, and the boy still continues restless, then you must call that same boy to aid you in your work. When you meet with him by himself, tell him that there is a good deal of noise in the school. "Now, Tom, I wish to have good order in all the classes, and to effect this, I wish you to help me. I think if you will assist me, between us

we can command aid?" Take him many a boy from (Applause and)

Hon. S. Cree follows:—

The committee count of the record the past year, his rect, and further 28. The expense

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All of which (Signed)

Ch'town, Aug

Report adopted

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And said, Mr matters noticed desirability of second to matter

uated. But if we can command good order. Tom, will you come to my aid?" Take him into your confidence. Why I have cured many a boy from being a thief, simply by trusting him. (Applause and laughter.)

Hon. S. Creelman, from the Audit committee, reported as follows:—

The committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's account of the receipts and expenditures of this convention for the past year, have examined the same and find them correct, and further report a balance due the Treasurer of \$7.

28. The expenditures for the past year being \$70.88

And the receipts only - - - - - 63.60

\$7.28

All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed) · SAMUEL CREELMAN.

JOHN ECKERSLY.

Ch'town, August 15, 1873.

Report adopted.

The subject of county conventions, previously submitted, was introduced by Rev. Mr. Wyllie, of Londonderry, moving the following resolution:—

"The Convention having had its attention directed to the subject of county conventions, would express its high approval of such, as well calculated to encourage Sabbath school working, recommend their formation throughout the Maritime Provinces, and request the superintendents of county towns as interim committees to take action in the matter, and that the executive committee be instructed to bring the subject up at the next convention."

And said, Mr. Chairman and Brethren: There are two matters noticed in this resolution. The first refers to the desirability of establishing county conventions; and the second to matter of detail in connection therewith. To

the former, I beg to direct your attention for a moment. If this convention agrees to have county conventions, as no doubt many desire, the question comes up, whether the means proposed are likely to accomplish the object in view. If we believe, that one use of these county conventions is to stimulate to greater activity in the work, and if so, then they are simply carrying out one grand idea. And I should fear, that without these after all, the national conventions will not do much good. We have heard of those who have been benefitted by county conventions in other places. Now there is no reason why we may not also enjoy the advantages which they confer upon those who have them. Why should not every Sabbath school teacher be placed within the reach of the influence which they confer. National conventions can only be enjoyed by a few; county conventions by the many. County conventions are excellent substitutes for national ones, and every county should have them, so that teachers in all parts of these Provinces may enjoy that influence and those benefits which they confer, without intermission from year to year. When such will be the case, then may we suppose that those benefits of which we have heard, will also be realized by the whole country. Teachers may then see each other more frequently. Be thus induced more constantly to persevere in their labors. Their establishment, I feel convinced, would cause us all to feel that a new stimulus and impetus was given to Sabbath school work in these Provinces.

Dr. Bell, at the call of the Convention, said:—Last night I referred to this matter, and agree with what has been said by Rev. Mr. Wyllie. But I fear the plan proposed will prove largely inoperative, unless the individuals taking hold of the matter occupy very prominent positions. The plan

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—Last night as been said proposed will s taking hold. The plan

I would recommend is, that you make an effort to get one person who will act in this matter in each county, and who will form a connecting link with this convention. One who will make an effort to have a meeting of the Sunday school workers of the county. At this meeting one man should be named who will act as county secretary, and whose duty it will be to set to work to endeavor to call a meeting for the organization of a county convention. He must, in the first instance, endeavor to get a few Sunday school workers together. They will agree upon a time and place to hold the convention. It will be desirable to get all the ministers and as many interested as possible, in the movement. Let the matter be published in the newspapers—urge upon all interested to have prayer to God offered up for the success of the movement. Let the object and time of meeting be well known. Have a county committee to make arrangements when you are to meet. Do your work quickly. Throw a whole-souled prayerful energy into all you do in the matter. Get a good county secretary who will co-operate heartily with others, and if you thus engage in the work, depending upon divine aid, you will find your labor will not be in vain in the Lord.

The subject was further spoken to by Mr. Hilton, Hon. S. Creelman; Rev. G. M. Grant, and Rev. Dr. Bayne, when the resolution was finally adopted.

The subject for the evening, viz: "The relation of church members to Sunday schools," was introduced by Rev. D. D. Currie, who said he had noticed that the financial question is often an important one in connection with all the operations of the church, and to obtain money, Tea meetings and other schemes had been resorted to. To carry forward any measure, or movement we must have money. In some

places members are pledged to contribute weekly, and where this is carried out, it is found that there is money enough for every operation in which the church engages. This, he thought, is an important relation existing between the members of the church and the Sunday school. The church should provide all the means which the school requires. Again, almost all the workers in the church are connected with, and found working in the Sunday school. This shows that the church members feel that they owe a duty to the school; and each individual should feel that his or her best efforts should be put forth in behalf of the school. The school should be made the subject of earnest prayer by church members. Each church member should take a deep interest in these matters. They should pray for the officers of the school. We should all remember that we are light bearers. Ye, are the light of the world, are the words of Jesus. Yes, his people are the light of the world. Here are children growing up in trespasses and sins. They must be born again, or they cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven. Church members should feel that they are lights to those around them. They should not be filled with the idea that they are a mighty fine people, and that when laboring in the Sunday school, they are laying the children under obligation to them. No, no. Such an idea should not enter into the mind of any one of us, or of a church member anywhere. There are many around us who are untaught. A deep responsibility rests on us to go forward and train those young minds for Jesus. To teach them the right and the good way in which they should go. Do this and God will bless you, and crown your efforts with success.

The opener was followed by Messrs. McCurdy and Underwood, New Glasgow; King, Grierson, Waddell, and

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Eckersly, of Halifax ; Stalker and Rev. Dr. Bayne, of Pictou ; Rev. A. L. Wyllie, of Londonderry ; Little, of Salusbry, and Simpson, of Stanley Bridge.

Brother Waddell was requested to prepare a resolution on the subject and present it at the morning session.

A collection in aid of the expenses of the convention was now taken up.

Rev. Mr. Grant, of Halifax, remarked, That he always listened with most profit and satisfaction to those who, in their statements, give facts. In what was said this morning and afternoon, he noticed that the remarks bore more upon those who are not members of this convention, than upon them who are, yet he hoped that one advantage resulting from this convention, will be the remedying of these complaints referred to, and stimulating teachers to look more closely into their own duty, and lead them to attend thereto more closely than they have done in the past. The first consideration of a teacher should be to have a clear idea of his own faults, and his personal duty. Let the teacher bear in mind that love provokes love. Bro. Waddell's system of visiting the parents is a good one. Let each member of this convention take hold of it, carry it home with him and act upon it. He had preached on this subject, pointing out the necessity of attending to this duty, but did not get them to do so. If you do not know the parents, how can you expect they will feel interested in your work. You may say they ought to invite you to their homes ; and so they should, but you should go a good deal more than half way to meet them. Many parents do not know the name of the teacher who is instructing their children every Sunday in the Sabbath school. A great many parents, in these matters, treat their children as the rich and wealthy

aristocrats of England do their children. They are too good for the kitchen but not good enough for the parlor. Oo like the curate who, while allowed to sit at the hric man's table, was not expected to ask for any of the best things before him. Now, if the ministers have got above the degradation, so may Sabbath school teachers get above it too. You must pocket your pride if you expect them to pocket their's. Do so, and they will be delighted to co-operate with you in your labor of love. Invite them generally to visit the school, and show them that you are deeply interested in the welfare of them and their children. You may pass resolutions, and talk until you are black in the face, and do no good. You must go and see them. When a teacher visits, and makes himself thoroughly acquainted in each household, he will know who can come to school, and who cannot. Oh, remember, you have taken a tremendous work upon you. You come here to get warmed up in your duty, and to learn how, with more success, to discharge that duty. Your work is analagous to that of the minister of the Gospel. Your aid comes from the same source. Unless you know the children of your class individually at their houses, you are not doing your duty as teachers. Be in earnest. Mark the effect produced by such men as Wilberforce and Pitt. Why? Simply because each, in every word he uttered spoke from the conviction of his own heart. Do not be finding fault. Let each of us, relying upon that strength which cometh from God, resolve, God helping us, to try and bring each scholar unto a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. To whom alone we will look for aid, and ascribe all the glory.

The 113 Hymn was sung, after which, Rev. D. D. Currie offered prayer, and the session closed.

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## FIFTH SESSION.

Saturday Morning, August 16, 1873.

Convention met this morning, in Zion Church, at half-past nine o'clock, and engaged in devotional exercises. At ten o'clock, the President took the chair, when the Secretary read the minutes of the previous session, which were confirmed.

A Patterson submitted the following resolution in connection with the subject, discussed at the Afternoon session, yesterday :—

“The Convention having had under consideration the subject of ‘Teachers’ Meetings,’ would express their deep sense of the importance of regular weekly meetings of the superintendent and teachers of each school. They have heard with regret, of the difficulty which obtains in securing the attendance of teachers at these meetings, and while appreciating the difficulties connected therewith, and the sacrifices necessary on the part of teachers, in order that such meetings may be successfully sustained, would affectionately and earnestly urge on teachers the duty of making sacrifices in the work of the Master who gave Himself for them—and beg them ‘not to forsake the assembling of themselves together as the manner of some is.’ The mode of conducting these meetings must be regulated by the circumstances of each school, but the convention is of opinion that while some time should be given to the study of the lesson for the succeeding Sabbath—a large part of the time should be devoted to prayer, for the blessing of God on their work, and to social christian conversation and conference on the work of the school, in order that the souls of the teachers may be stirred up and encouraged in the prosecution of the work in which they are engaged.”

On motion adopted.

W. H. Waddell presented the following as a summary of the subject discussed on last evening :—

"Whereas the relationship subsisting between the church and the Sabbath school, is as intimate as that between the mother and her child,"

"*Therefore Resolved*,—That in the opinion of this convention, it is the duty of the congregation, voluntarily to supply the funds necessary for the efficient maintenance of the school; that where it is possible, members of the church should become connected with the school, either as teachers or pupils; that one of the best means of securing the co-operation of parents in the work of training the young is a regular and systematic visitation by the teachers at the homes of the scholars, that above and beyond all, the teachers should be personally consecrated to Christ in feeding the lambs of His flock, so that by their zeal and earnestness they may provoke to a godly emulation all the members of the Church who come within the sphere of their influence."

On motion, adopted.

The Convention then proceeded to consider "The necessity of Normal classes for teachers, and how to conduct them."

Dr. Bell said, This is a vital question, and one pressed upon the attention of all earnest Sabbath School workers. The efficiency of the work does not depend upon the aids we bring to our assistance. We may have all the apparatus possible to obtain, in the shape of books, maps, &c., but they are all dead missionaries in the work. We require the active, willing head and heart to work these. We have next to look at the enormous extent and increase of the work to be done, and the progress it has made within the past few years. Millions have been reached by teachers who have had no Normal School training. But the work is extending, and it is found, that with this increase, the efficiency of the teacher cannot be wholly overlooked. Hence the enquiry comes up, what can we do to aid those who long to engage in this labour, and who are willing to do the Lord's work, in

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Sabbath school? One benefit, no doubt, will arise out of this convention. Many teachers now here, are learning much which will be of benefit to them. By comparing notes of success and failures, much may be gained. Yet, conventions can only do a certain work. You will require to have Sabbath school institutes. In the public schools, no one looks upon any one as a born teacher. They require to be, and are trained to teach. Now, the highest development of all teaching is required here. The Sabbath school teacher may possess the highest powers, and all the essentials of a successful teacher, but to all this, in order to success in the Sabbath school, he requires to have the grace of God in the heart. It is this alone which can fully qualify him for the great and important work of Sabbath school teaching. We have such teachers, and many of them have not had the advantage of being trained for their work. If they had, they would, no doubt, be still more successful. Therefore, we require to train teachers for ourselves. We require to train them for each school. You know the advantage an efficient teacher confers, who takes charge of a secular school. Now, never let it be lost sight of, that the highest element in teaching, is required in the Sabbath school. It is a mistake too, to suppose any one can teach an infant class. The ablest teachers in the school should alone take charge of the youngest scholars. Ministers and superintendents should constantly be on the look out for those who are likley to become teachers in the Sabbath school, and when the proper time arrives, speak to them, and do all they can to direct the energies of their minds to the importance of Sabbath school teaching. Our best scholars should be led to look forward to such a work, and be preparing for it. On each class the eye of the teacher should be set, and from out of

each, the highest developement of thought and character should be selected, with a view to their future engagement in this glorious labour of love. Let the best teacher in the school be placed over this class. The Minister, if he can attend, might take charge of it. It may be an encroachment upon his time, but nevertheless, he should do it. Teach them as a training class. In addition, that class should meet once a week for prayer, and with a view of going into the matter more technically than they can in the Sabbath school. Get the highest influence—let the highest power obtainable, be brought forward to teach. If they are good scholars, a little training of this nature, continued with them for two or three years, will do good, and with the blessing of God promote the progress of the school generally. (Cheers and Applause.)

Dr. Bell was followed by Hon. S. Creelman, J. Grierson, W. H. Waddell, Rev. A. Glendinning, J. J. Macgowan, Jos. Little, Geo. McNeil, Robert Gordon, P. P. Archibald, T. A. White, P. J. Grant, N. Hilton, J. Stalker, John McNeill, J. J. Ferguson, C. McKinnon and W. Warwick.

Mr. White, Gay's River, enquired if there was any plan which they might adopt to have teachers meetings. He knew of many schools (anxious to hear from him), in Gay's River, and Musquidoboit; J. S. McLean, P. G. Grant and others, spoke in reference to this matter, but the general feeling was that no definite plan could be adopted suitable for all schools. Dr. Bell, recommended that each school obtain a few of the best Sunday school Manuals and Tracts for distribution; and thought it desirable that classes be trained with a view to the work of Sabbath school teaching. There is a small work on the art of teaching, and another shewing how to secure attention, which should be in the hands of all

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Sabbath school teachers, and which can be had at the depot of the Sunday School Union in St. John.

The Convention then proceeded to hear reports from the delegates respecting the schools in their respective localities, when Messrs. Ferguson, Charlottetown; Chisholm, Pictou; Stewart, Georgetown; Miller, Greenhill; Gordon, Montague; and White, Gay's River, gave in encouraging and interesting accounts from their respective schools.

The Business Committee reported, when after singing, the Session closed. Dr. Bayne pronouncing the Benediction.

#### SEVENTH SESSION.

Saturday Afternoon, August 16, 1873.

Convention met at half-past two o'clock, and engaged in devotional exercises; at three o'clock the President took the Chair, when the Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed.

Bro. Little, of Salisbury, presented the following:—

“That for the better regulation as to the Spiritual health of Sabbath schools in neglected parts of the Maritime Provinces, that the corresponding Secretary of each Sabbath school Union, in their respective Provinces, address a circular on the Spiritual qualification of Sabbath school teachers, to one or more zealous workers in each Parish, whose duty shall be to visit every Sabbath school, or place where one should be established, and on the authority of his circular, as his credential for organizing schools needed, and improve other schools by shewing the necessity of having the members of Christian Churches to teach the Sunday schools; and the agent so appointed, shall send a return, previous to the 24th day of May, 1874, to the Secretary of the Union, a

report of the number of schools organized, and the teachers names and profession, and the church to which they belong, together with such as are not church members. And that a report of the whole be submitted to the next Annual Convention, by the Secretary of the Sunday school Union."

Referred to the Business Committee, who subsequently reported as follows:—

"That as this Convention has no control over the corresponding Secretaries of the Sunday school Unions in the several Provinces, it cannot entertain the foregoing Resolution in its present shape."

Report adopted.

Rev. A. L. Wyllie, summed up the mornings discussion, with the following resolution:—

"In order to succeed in teaching there must be proper method, it must be normal, or according to rule. The best method to be adopted, and the rules to be followed are found only through much thought, observation and experience. When discovered they may be communicated, the young having in this respect, the benefit of all that has been attained unto by those who preceeded them. In the Sabbath school, young persons of promise as future teachers might be selected; those along with their other teaching would be instructed in the rules to be followed in conducting Sabbath school classes. In the benefit of those already employed, teachers meetings might be partly devoted to Normal exercises."

On motion, adopted.

"Teaching the Bible, the object to be accomplished, and, how best attained," was opened by

Mr. May, St. John: He said this was an important question, and one which demands careful thought. It is necessary that you possess a knowledge of the Bible yourself, or how, otherwise can you teach another what you do

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not know. In order to success in teaching the Bible, you must have a thorough knowledge of it, and no excuse can be taken for your ignorance. Some may say they are poor and have not time for its study. To all such he would say: where there is a will, there is a way. Again there are those who are anxious to provide, and who do provide food and raiment for their children, who care little for that which is of more value. In order to success in teaching the Bible, the teacher requires to have a knowledge of the different circumstances under which it was written. It is full of figures which require to be understood. An Indian once said, your name means nothing. Not so with my name. Mine means sunrise, because I was born just when the sun was beginning to shine. Now these names of scripture, though they may seem to be dark, yet they all mean something. He noticed one, with reference to the sacrifice of Cain and Abel. Cain offered of the fruit of the ground, and the question comes up, why was not his offering accepted of God? Because the offering was not according to divine appointment. The sacrifice was to be a living victim slain for the purpose, and why? because that object was to typify the Saviour. Again the Lord said unto Cain, why is thy countenance fallen? "Sin lieth at the door." Now how are we to understand this? If thou desirest to offer a sacrifice, it is lying at thy door, meaning the fourfooted animal, probably a lamb, lying at his door. There is an offering for you at your feet. When that passage is thus understood in its true light it is beautiful. The names in scripture point also to Christ. So do the cities of refuge, in their names and localities. The Botany of the Country is used for the same purpose. The righteous shall flourish as the palm tree. We must know this book before we can get

to the bottom of it. Teachers require to read Angus' hand book of the Bible and similar works. Study them well, they will benefit the teacher who does so. He was afraid they were not all as diligent in these respects as they should be. Frequently a question is proposed to a scholar, which the teacher cannot answer himself. In addressing children we must do so in language they will understand, and adopt our mode of teaching to their age and capacity. In teaching a Bible class we require to post up ourselves in the higher studies of the scriptures. The object to be attained we must not lose sight of. Be sure you fully understand what you teach, in order that your instructions may be the means of fortifying your scholars minds in a correct knowledge of the truth, so that they may not be turned aside by every wind of doctrine. Many come from the United States who are infidels, and, how are our young men to withstand this seductive influence unless they are well instructed and grounded in the truth. But the most important consideration of all, is to press upon the scholar the importance of the salvation of the soul. No one can do this effectually. The power is God's. We are the instruments in his hands for imparting a knowledge of the truth, and our responsibilities are great. We require to be filled not only with a knowledge of the truth, but also with the love and spirit of our master. And when we go forth to instill knowledge into the young mind, let us see that we do not do so in our own strength. Let us go from our closets to our labor, and from our work to our closets, to pray for a blessing upon the labor we have been engaged in. Praying that God may open their young hearts for the reception of his own glorious truths, and that they may grow up and be the means of the conversion of others.

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The opener was followed by the following brothers :—J. Stalker, Rev. Dr. Bayne, C. McKinnon, F. W. Hales, Chas. Palmer, McNaughton, J. Grierson, R. P. Archibald, J. S. McLean, A. Patterson, E. D. King, Robert Gordon, T. A. White, J. Macgowan, and N. Hilton.

The credential committee handed in their report, laid on the table.

The subject of " Infant classes, and the best mode of conducting them," was introduced.

Rev. Dr. Bell, Ontario, said the infant class was the most interesting part of the sabbath school. The way to keep from becoming old was to associate with the young. He who associated with infant classes would be young, though the house he lived in should become old. An infant class could not be taught advantageously in the same apartment as the general school. If there was no separate room the best should be done that the circumstances would admit of. The infant class should have the best teacher that could be found. There was often difficulty in procuring a suitable teacher. It requires a teacher of peculiar qualifications. Females were the best teachers of infant classes. A teacher of an infant class required to be apt at illustration. Without sympathy there could be no true teaching in infant classes. In the infant class in his school they took in children from three years old up to seven or eight. The teacher should never give a scholar an idea without calling it back again. The teaching should include a large amount of singing. It was instructive to observe the kind of hymns children of four or five years would choose. They would often choose hymns of the deepest experience of the human heart—such as ' Happy day, when Jesus washed my sins away,' or ' I love Jesus, yes I do.' His mode of accounting for this was

that the hearts of those little ones were brought under religious influences before they were trained to resist divine truth. The child who understood what love to its father and mother was could understand what love to Jesus was.

Mr. Waddell, Halifax, would like to hear from Dr. Bell whether he kept his infant class in during the whole time of the school, and whether it would be an advantage to have assistant teachers:

Dr. Bell replied that he did not consider the infant class in his school a model one. The children of the infant class took their places in the gallery as they came in. Their whole time in school was an hour and ten or fifteen minutes. At the close, the infant class was assembled in the body of the church with the other classes. He did not think assistant teachers were necessary unless the class contained over fifty or sixty children. As soon as the children were able to read and engage in scripture lesson he would remove them to another class.

Mr. Grierson, Halifax, said he considered the infant class the class of classes. To impress the precious truths of Revelation upon the hearts of infants was of paramount importance.

The business committee reported, that a meeting of the children belonging to the different Sabbath schools of the city, be held in the Wesleyan Church, to-morrow afternoon, at three o'clock, and that the farewell meeting be held in the same church, to-morrow evening, at eight o'clock.

Report adopted.

Session closed with prayer by Rev. Mr. Duncan.

#### EIGHTH SESSION.

Saturday Evening, August 16, 1873.

Convention met this evening, in the Wesleyan Chapel, at

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half-past seven o'clock, and engaged in devotional exercises. At eight o'clock, the President took the chair, when the Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were confirmed.

The Business Committee presented the following report:—

“Your committee recommend the following persons along with the officers of the convention, to form the Executive committee, viz:—A. Patterson, Halifax; T. B. Kenney, S. M. Lewis, P. D. Kenney, Yarmouth; and H. R. Smith, St. John. T. Dennis, Assistant Secretary, to be Secretary of the Executive committee.”

Report adopted.

Business committee reported as follows:—

“Your committee feel that the thanks of this convention are due to the friends who, by their kindly aid, have contributed so largely to its success. They therefore recommend the following resolution for adoption by the convention:”—

*Resolved*,—“That the thanks of this convention be tendered to the Christian friends at Charlottetown, who have so kindly and hospitably entertained the members of this Convention. To the trustees of “Zion,” and the Wesleyan churches, whose buildings have been so freely placed at our disposal. To the press of the city for their kindly notices of the convention and to the railway authorities and Steam Boat Companies for reduced fares to the delegates.”

*Also, Resolved*, “That this convention heartily reciprocate the kindly greetings of our Ontario and Quebec brethren, conveyed to us through Rev. Dr. Bell, and tender thanks to that gentleman for his attendance, and valuable assistance at the meeting of the convention.”

Each of the foregoing resolves, was adopted by a rising vote.

Two questions were found in the question-box, viz:

“Should a superintendent of a school be a teacher of a class under any circumstances?” And “why has the Convention adopted the name “Sunday School Convention, instead of Sabbath School Convention?”

In reply to the first question, J. S. McLean, Esq., Halifax, said a superintendent should not be a Sabbath School teacher. He had tried to be both and found that he could not be either aright.

In reply to the second question J. Grierson, Esq., Halifax, said the proper name for the Sabbath was the “Lord’s day.” For seven years he had walked 15 miles on the Lord’s day to teach two mission Sunday Schools. The Jewish Sabbath was a local institution, and the meaning of it was, stay home and rest; but the christian Sabbath meant “go from home and do all the good you can.”

The remainder of the Session was devoted to addresses in reference to “Sabbath school work and successful workers.”

Mr. May, St. John, remarked that too little attention was paid to little things. Attention to small things was often the means of leading the soul to Christ.

Mr. Waddell, of Halifax, said a teacher was sometimes laboring and thought he was doing no good, but he was doing good when he was not aware of it. He related an incident of a little boy belonging to his class who had been restrained from resenting a serious and unprovoked injury by the discussion of the text. “Be not overcome of evil but overcome evil with good,” a short time ago.

Mr. Stalker, Pictou, said the proudest day of his life was a day previous to a sacramental occasion when eleven joined the fellowship of the church and two of them came from the Sabbath School with which he was connected.

Mr. Grierson remarked that at a meeting in Boston a

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young man stood up and told what the Lord had done for him. He had given up living for self and had commenced living for Christ. That young man had been one of his scholars.

R. C. Morse, Esq., New York, related an incident of a remarkably successful teacher who studied and prayed over the lesson every day. Teachers should seek to make the lesson resplendent with the smiles of God over it.

Mr. Warwick, St John, said that almost every place he went he found some whom the Lord had given him. At the prayer meeting he often set his thoughts upon particular ones, but perhaps the one thought of was not the one the Lord would give him first.

J. S. McLean, of Halifax, would like something to give us encouragement. Sometimes the heart was overwhelmed with the greatness of the work. A little boy from his school had gone out on saturday morning and in two hours was brought home a corpse. The next Sabbath while calling the roll as usual, he called his name without thinking. The thought arose in his mind, "where is he"—"what have I done for him." Two Sabbaths he had not come to school. He felt humbled in the dust when he remembered that he had not gone to him nor spoken to him. He had met him but was hurrying to his business and did not wait to speak to him. He allowed the opportunity to slip. We should remember that before another day our little ones may be called away, and we should reflect upon the immortality of the soul.

Rev. Mr. Duncan, said the experience of sabbath school teachers was much the same as that of ministers of the Gospel. They often sowed in tears but reaped in joy. The good seed was taking root while they were sleeping. It

would be a poor thing if man could say "I have done it." We should realize the power of God. He made us of our discouragements for his own wise ends. He remembered two little lads about seven years of age who had gone from his sabbath school, and he believed were with the Lord. The singing class was, he believed, the chief means of the conversion of one of them. A man of prayer, in teaching the mechanical process of singing, might do much for the advancement of the Lord's cause. He should open and close his class with prayer. That lad had his heart cheered most upon his death bed by the simple hymns learned in the class, such as "Nothing to do in Heaven." He had asked him as he was dying "Do you love God?" "Do you love Jesus?" "Do you think we will meet again?" To all of which he received an affirmative answer, and then his spirit passed away. The other had gone about a fortnight ago. The last days of his life his time was spent in reading the Bible. As he was dying his father was weeping, and he said "father, do not weep for me, I am praying that we may all meet there." The hymn he learned in the sabbath school "Nearer my God to Thee" was the great comfort of his mind.

Rev. Dr. Bayne, said that while they were talking of their successes they might be discouraging others who had no evidence of success. Our reward did not depend upon success, but upon our faithfulness. "Thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things." God might be trying those who had no tangible evidence of success. He would say to them, "labor on, and you shall have you reward." We must not confine ourselves to evidences. "We walk by faith not by sight." It is the Lord that brings salvation.

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F. W. Hales, Esq., Charlottetown, said that twenty-eight years ago he had been placed in charge of a class. He endeavored to labor on, but saw no fruit except the affection of his scholars. Soon after he came to this country he heard that the Lord had taken four of those children to himself. One of them, on his death-bed, made his teacher promise to write to him (Mr. Hales) and tell him how much he loved Jesus. He also requested that the little money he had might be sent to him to buy books for children in the Island. We should remember that our Lord is true, and he tells us that if we labor for him we shall not lose our reward. We should trust him, and look forward with joyful anticipations to meeting with those we have been permitted to speak to here of Jesus. The Sunday school teacher was placed in a position only second to the Minister of the Gospel, and his labor would not fail to bring forth fruit to God's glory.

Mr. Bethune, Halifax, knew of several from his Bible class who had taken their stand under the banner of Christ. In the same Bible class he himself had been strengthened, and he was glad to see his teacher here to-night.

Rev. Dr. Bell, Ontario, related an incident of a sculptor who was looking at a block of marble in the dust and was asked why he looked at it. He replied that he saw an angel in it. His artistic eye saw what his chisel would bring out. Teachers were not laboring upon stone angels, but upon creatures which would be made living angels in heaven—upon something which no fire could destroy, but would last as long as God himself endured. They would be more brilliant than the brightest gem in the crown of the greatest monarch upon earth. Those who led them to the Saviour would have them as bright stars in their crowns which would shine for ever. Oftentimes those who labored for God were

not permitted to see immediate results, but they might rest assured that the work done for him would never be lost, or go without its reward.

The discussion, like all the other discussions of the Convention, was interspersed with the singing of hymns.

Rev. Dr. Bell thanked the Convention for the hearty reception he had met with as a delegate from Canada. He had come to the sea-board to seek for health with little expectation of seeing the Island and no expectations of being present at such a blessed convention. When he returned home he would have beautiful memory pictures of the delegates and the Island. He trusted that he would go home with his physical and spiritual health recruited. His memory of his first visit to this beautiful Island would be indeed more beautiful by his communion with the delegates. He did not know the time when their provincial Convention will be held, but he would get their secretary to send circulars to some, at least, of those present, and he would extend a general invitation to any of them who would meet with them in Ontario. He would be happy to reciprocate those kind christian regards with which he had been received. He trusted that his visit would be a benefit to him individually, and that it would be the means of bringing those closer together who were laboring in the sabbath schools.

The President, W. B. MacNutt, Esq., said: "I am sure the Convention will join me in saying that the obligation is on our part, and that we wish Dr. Bell God-speed in his journey home."

After which the Rev. Dr. Bayne, offered the concluding Prayer, and the Convention closed its third annual meeting.

R. M. BARRATT,

*Secretary.*

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## SABBATH MEETING.

At 3 o'clock, on Sabbath afternoon, a Mass Meeting of Scholars belonging to the different Sabbath Schools in the city, was held in the Wesleyan Church. There must have been from 1000 to 1200 scholars present. The parents and guardians had to retire to the galleries. J. S. McLean, Esq., of Halifax presided, and the singing was lead by Mr. N. A. Mitchell; John Strambourg taking charge of the melodeon. The speakers were the Rev. Mr. Wylie, Messrs. Morse, New York, and Grierson, Halifax. The Rev. J. Davis opened with prayer and reading the Scriptures, and Rev. T. Duncan closed. Although speaking to the young, requires a special adaptation of gifts, yet the young folks seemed pleased with the meeting, and it was most gratifying to see so large a number, many of so tender an age—conduct themselves so well.

The Farewell meeting in the evening, also held in the Wesleyan Church, was thronged. Addresses were given by Dr. Bayne, Pictou, Messrs. Heard, Morse, Grierson W. D. Stewart, and Hon. J. Hill. The opening and closing exercises were led respectively, by the Revs. D. D. Currie, and T. Duncan. The meeting was well sustained till close on 10 o'clock, p. m. At the close, the members of Convention assembled round the platform singing their parting hymn and uniting in prayer.

## APPENDIX.

## I.

The report of the Credential Committee furnished the following Statistics:—

Delegates present 108, representing as follows:—

Nova Scotia,	-	-	-	-	-	-	57
New Brunswick,	-	-	-	-	-	-	10

Prince Edward Island,	-	-	-	-	-	38
Ontario,	-	-	-	-	-	1
United States,	-	-	-	-	-	2
Reports received from 83 Schools with Officers,						209
Female Teachers,					621	
Male					582	
						1213
Female Scholars,					6022	
Male					4713	
						10735
Making a total of						12,157

## II.

## FROM PRESBYTERY OF P. E. ISLAND.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I. 13th Aug. 1873.

JOHN. S. McLEAN, Esq., Chairman of S. S. Convention.

Dear Sir;—At a meeting of the Presbytery of P. E. I., held in the 13th inst. the following resolution was unanimously adopted and a copy thereof ordered to be transmitted to the S. S. Convention.

“On motion it was unanimously resolved that in view of the meeting of the Sunday school Convention in this city to-morrow, this Presbytery agree to extend a hearty welcome to the Delegates from abroad—to express its cordial approval of the objects of the Convention—its earnest sympathy with the Delegates in their efforts to elevate the standard of Sabbath schools, and its fervent prayer that the Divine blessing may rest largely on all their devotional exercises, their proceedings and consultations.”

Extracted from the minutes of the Presbytery, by order,  
JOHN M. McLEOD, Clerk.

FROM

To the Sabbath  
Charlottetown

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I am deputed  
in connexion with  
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III.  
FROM SYNOD CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

CHARLOTTETOWN, August 14, 1873.

To the Sabbath School Convention at present assembled in  
Charlottetown.

FELLOW WORKERS :

I am deputed by the Synod's committee on Sabbath Schools in connexion with the Church of Scotland, in the Maritime Provinces, to convey to you the Committee's most hearty congratulations. We have regarded with much interest your operations during the past two Sessions you have held—one in New Brunswick, the other in Nova Scotia. Your discussions, your devotions, the warm interest you display in the conversion and godly upbringing of the young, cannot fail, we are assured, through the divine blessing, to be crowned with much success. This year we look on with renewed interest, rejoicing in your hearty cooperation with us, in advancing the Redeemer's cause among the youth of our land, and while grateful for your zeal, at the same time extend to you our cordial sympathy and our desire to further, as far as within us lies, the usefulness and well being of your organization.

That the Lord may bless you and give you to see abundantly the fruits of your labors: and that in seeking the welfare of others, you yourselves may be refreshed and strengthened, is the Committee's humble and earnest prayer.

In name and by authority of the committee,

THOMAS DUNCAN, Convener.