

US

RH, Oct. 17, 1878

*See the
journal*

THE CONFERENCE

The largest gathering of Christian Sabbathkeepers ever assembled in this country, and we may also say, in any other country, so far as we are in possession of any historical records, has just met in Battle Creek. . . . On Sabbath, Oct. 5, at least twenty-five hundred Sabbath-keepers were together.

More than forty ministers were present. Twenty-seven regular discourses were given during the meeting, which held over to the 14th. But this hardly gives an idea of the meeting in this respect; for talks and addresses about as good as sermons were sandwiched into almost every business session.

The presence of our missionaries from Europe, and brethren from distant parts of our own land, as Oregon, California, Texas, Alabama, Virginia, and almost every Northern State from Maine to Nebraska, gave the greatest interest to the occasion--as good an illustration as we may perhaps ever expect to see this side the reality, of that time when the servants of God shall come from the East and the West, the North and the South, and shall sit down together in the kingdom of their Father.

The mammoth Sabbath-school, at 9 A. M., Sabbath, Oct. 5, at which there were present fifteen hundred scholars, and sixty teachers, the largest Sabbath school (we do not say Sunday school), probably ever assembled in the world, was a thrilling scene and a soul-inspiring occasion.

At times during the meeting, the Spirit of God moved with power upon the congregation. On several occasions from two hundred to three hundred were forward for prayers. Hearts were not only convicted but converted. Infidelity and tobacco were among the things openly abandoned and denounced on these occasions by some who had been their slaves. In the good work thus wrought in the direction of seeking the Lord, the zealous and untiring labors of Bro. and Sr. White were chiefly instrumental.

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We are happy to be able to state the Bro. White was so far recovered in health as to have strength to take hold with his usual energy in behalf of the meeting, giving six of the regular discourses, besides all his labors in revival meetings, business sessions, and committee work. When it was ^{at} thought that the last camp-meeting he was unable to preach at all, or to take any special part in business proceedings, the contrast was a matter of very great gratitude with the brethren and sisters. . . .

At noon, Tuesday, the 8th, seventy-three were baptized by Brn. White, Lamson, Miller, and Jones. A more lively and impressive baptismal scene we never witnessed. At times the four administrators, each with two candidates, would be in the water together, performing the solemn service of burying these candidates in the likeness of their Lord's death, in quick succession, yet without unseemly haste, without interference with one another, or any confusion. The entire number were baptized in a little over a half an hour. It was a solemn and interesting scene.

There was another baptism on Sunday, the 13th, at which thirty-six went forward, making one hundred and nine in all. . . .

The singing was conducted by Bro. J. E. White, in attendance at the Conference from California, who introduced the new music book he has just published, entitled, "The Song Anchor." With Bro. Stone at the organ, the choir rendered some of the beautiful pieces of this collection in a manner to please all lovers of good music and good singing.

Sr. B. L. Whitney, from New York, performed an important part in connection with the meeting, in furnishing full and faithful reports to the leading papers of the State. . . .