

midst into other neighborhoods; and alas! not a few have "forsaken God that made them, and lightly esteemed the Rock of their salvation;" leaving us a net increase to the Societies of 207 persons.

Our Sabbath Schools still continue prosperous as to numbers and finances, although they do not realize in so large a degree as we desire, the highest form of prosperity in the conversion of the children to God. It is very possible that the great end of Sabbath school teaching is not sufficiently regarded and pursued by some who are engaged in it, and that too many of the members of our churches keep aloof from the schools, where their presence, counsels, prayers, and labors might abundantly be blessed. Still we are not without cause of joy in respect to this department of the work, for in not a few instances, "out of the mouth of babes and sucklings God hath perfected praise."

In another respect the good hand of our God has been upon us, in that no breach has been made in our ministerial ranks. The fathers, toil-worn, and somewhat broken by time and infirmities, are with us still, their hearts as strong, and hopes as bright as in the days when they pioneered among the woods of this great land; and now in a green old age, they dwell among their own people, loved and honored for their "works' sake," joyously awaiting the time when the great Master, whom they have so long served, shall bid them "go up higher." While this is so, however, several of the brethren, through age or affliction, are for the present laid aside. The brethren Edwards and Gale, have felt it to be necessary to apply for superannuation; Bro. J. Hoidge, who since last Conference, has been nigh unto death, although now in a good degree restored, still needs rest for his more perfect restoration to health; Bro. H. J. Nott, has been obliged, through broken health, to retire from the work, although we trust his retirement will be only temporary; and Bro. R. Hicks, whose health is somewhat improved, needs a longer cessation from ministerial toil; Bro. Ashley, also becomes a supernumerary from a similar cause.

Towards supplying for lack of service of these beloved brethren, two young men have been received on probation for the ministry, while four, who have satisfactorily passed through their probation, have been admitted into full connexion with this Conference.

Although the effort made to establish a Connexional Printing Office was not so generally supported as we had hoped, we are glad to be able to say, that this important aim has been achieved, and there is every prospect that under the judicious management of our Editor, it will become a financial success. Our connexional organ, the OBSERVER, has been enlarged, its circulation has considerably increased, and it is viewed with increasing

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