

"found the people in a dark and scattered state." He reports: Sermons preached 8. Families visited 20. Conference and other meetings 4. Collected \$3.00.

At a meeting of the Board in May, it was voted in consideration of the destitute condition of the brethren at Handy Mountain and Port George, to request Rev. L. B. Gates to give them what portion of time he may be able to spare until the Association. He reports a low state of religion. Spent 1 week with the brethren: Sermons preached 3. Conference Meeting 1. Families visited 20. Collected \$1.00.

*Rev. H. Achilles* received an appointment from the Board of 4 weeks to Chelsea and vicinity. He found the cause very low, and the church much scattered. Services were held mostly in dwelling houses, and these were crowded to excess. The missionary was permitted to witness good results of his labors in the reviving of God's work in the hearts of his people, and indications of interest amongst the young. He says "Our last meetings seemed to be deeply interesting, and I trust some have obtain pardon." This field is greatly destitute of the preached gospel. But they are encouraged to go on with their Prayer and Conference meetings. They have started an interesting Sabbath School: Sermons preached 15. Families visited 45. Prayer and Conference Meetings 4. Collected \$6.50.

The work of your missionaries may be summarized as follows:  
Weeks of labor 58.

Sermons delivered 189.

Prayer and Conference Meetings 84.

Families visited 402.

Baptized 8.

Collected by missionaries \$104.82.

Your Board would further invite attention to the fact that our destitute fields are under the present arrangement, inadequately supplied with the preached word. Some of these sections can only enjoy the services of the missionary for a few weeks of the year, while for months they are left wholly destitute. It is felt that there are certain grave defects in our present methods of working. With proper system we could furnish our destitute churches with *stated* preaching, and obtain from our people greatly increased contributions. Holding the truths we cherish, and working them out by gospel, we must "wax stronger and stronger." We have reason for gratitude for the prosperity and growth of some of our churches, yet it is evident that we are far from accomplishing what we ought, with the divine blessing. We need to be more liberal in giving, more bountiful in giving, more prompt and zealous in action. The churches must observe the law of christian charity, and seek for the things whereby they may edify one another! The wealthier should have nothing over, and the poorer should feel no

Your Board look forward with interest to the proposed Convention