

Our Mission Union,

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Original articles intended for insertion in the paper, should be addressed to the Editor, at same place.

Christian teachers, the number of gatherings, and the efficiency of the work still continues.

In papers for the study of the Bible, Lesson Leaves and illustrative papers, there is issued weekly two million five-hundred-thousand copies.

The Sabbath schools of the United States and Canada give annually to benevolent objects not less than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. This is but the rill that will in the future swell into the river of Christian benevolence.

The work in Canada, and especially in Ontario, has received great impetus through the efforts put forth by the Sabbath School Association of Canada, the foundation of which was laid at Kingston, February 11th, 12th and 13th, 1857. The basis of co-operation being:—The doctrines of the Gospel accepted by the Evangelical Alliance.

The Association organized in 1865, when it was resolved,—“That under a deep conviction of the importance of mutual counsel in this great work of the religious training of the young, we, the delegates in convention assembled, hereby resolve to associate ourselves for this purpose, on the doctrinal basis agreed upon at the first convention in Kingston, under the designation of ‘The Sabbath School Association of Canada.’”

The Association has held eighteen Provincial Conventions in large centres of population, and by these,—(1) It has strengthened in zeal and knowledge both the delegates who attended its meetings and also those among whom they mingled on their return home. (2) It has greatly encouraged Systematic Bible Study in private. (3) It has fostered and directed the training of

S. S. Teachers by normal classes, and by urging attendance on larger assemblies in which study, drill, and examination receive due prominence.

The Association was fortunate enough to secure (in 1882) as General Secretary, Rev. John McEwen, well known throughout Canada as an able, earnest and intelligent advocate of advanced methods in teaching and management in Sabbath Schools, who, since his appointment, has visited the greater part of the Province of Ontario, and in his work has met with much encouragement and success. Some idea of the work performed during the past year may be gathered from the following summary:—

One hundred and twenty-seven Institute exercises, from one hour and a half to two hours each.

Thirty-eight sermons preached to children, teachers, and general audiences.

Fifty-eight different addresses on a variety of Sabbath school topics.

Fourteen Union Mass Meetings of Sabbath schools in towns and villages, with twelve schools personally visited and addressed. And through this arrangement sixty eight Sabbath schools with their teachers and many of the parents have had their duty and the work of the Association laid before them.

Eleven lectures on Sabbath school work, followed up by the teaching of the Institutes, making in all two hundred and sixty different public appearances in the work of the Association.

Over three thousand teachers have attended these Institute Exercises, few less than twice, and most of them the whole series of meetings held in each place.

No doubt the approaching convention, to be held at Brockville, will bring to the front many teachers, whose testimony will prove an encouragement to the Association and its Secretary, not only to continue the work, but, if possible, to largely increase its usefulness.

Improvements.

OUR readers will notice that we have added another feature to the attractions offered in our paper. “Our Column for Preachers and Teachers,” on page 8 (but which will hereafter appear on page 2), will no doubt prove of much service to those for whom it is specially intended. Rev. J. McEwen has kindly consented to contribute to this column each fortnight, and other well-known Bible students will help from time to time. At an early date we shall add other features calculated to help the many teachers now receiving our paper, and also the large addition of readers we confidently expect to receive.