

them, and when the dark pall hung over the city, they became ministering angels to the poor and the needy.

"Thirty-five church members, and 150 of the congregation, became victims of the destroying pestilence. Since last May 200 adults and about 150 children have been buried in the Baptist cemetery in Havana. But see how God has rewarded the faith and Christian heroism of his people. At the beginning of this fearful epidemic the church in Havana numbered 350 members; it now numbers 700. On the 13th of November brother Diaz baptized 105 "new men and women" born into the kingdom of God during this time of trouble.

"Do you wonder at it, and inquire how such a work was accomplished? Here is part of the secret. Two of our female missionaries reported more than 1,600 conversations with individuals about their soul's salvation during the last quarter, forty-four of whom embraced Christ as their Saviour and were baptized into the fellowship of His people. Similiar work was done by many others not in the employ of the Board. Into the plague-smitten homes they carried healing for the soul as well as the body. God blessed their words and let none of them fall to the ground.

"Read brother Diaz's letter, and while you rejoice and thank God for His wonderful work, remember that you can help to redeem the millions of that fair island who yet walk in darkness."

"HAVANA, 27 de December, de 1887.

"The epidemic disease is over, only one or two cases we have daily. We have lost over 150 members. Last month I baptized on Sunday evening (the 13th) 105 that were converted during the epidemic disease. I asked one of the deacons to go with me into the water, and we both expended two hours baptizing the new women and men. The membership in Havana is 700. I calculate we have 1,000 Baptists on the island. Last year we had in our Sunday-school 500 pupils, and in the present year we have 1,844 in the city of Havana. All the missions outside Havana have their own Sunday-schools and they may have 150 or 200, each one of them. We celebrated the Christmas tree this year, and took one of the theaters, where we gathered 2,000 children and over 3,000 adults; the hall was full. We will double our membership if we have the church building.

Your brother,

"A. J. DIAZ."

It is not to be wondered at that the Southern Baptist Convention in its last session at Richmond, Va., declared that in Cuba a crisis has been reached that imperatively demands an expenditure of over \$50,000. The Home Mission Board, to which this work is intrusted, proposes to purchase a property built for a theater, which is admirably situated and adapted to the needs of the work. To purchase this valuable property will enable the congregation to have an immediate place of worship instead of waiting two years to build one. We hope the appeal of the corresponding secretary, Dr. Tichenor, will meet with a prompt response. The door has been opened by God in Cuba and the right man is there to carry on the work.