

he has been at work during most of the time in the Province of Ontario, excepting two months in the Maritime Provinces and Quebec; and we are glad to be able to state that much blessing has attended his labors.

There have been some discouragements, but on the other hand, in many places and in several where no Associations exist, rich spiritual benefits have resulted from his labours. One encouraging feature has been the formation of a number of Association Bible Classes, which have been successfully maintained.

Some weak and languishing Associations have been helped and put in working order; one or two, we regret to say, have suspended, principally on account of lack of interest among their members and want of sympathy from the Christians in these localities.

Your Committee are convinced that much of this could be avoided if we had vigorous district Committees throughout the Provinces, and more inter-visitation among the Associations, and trust that this year this matter will be put into active operation. One or two instances have occurred showing the value of co-operation in helping one another, for example:—The members of one of the Associations in Western Ontario were very much discouraged and about disbanding, when representatives from Hamilton and London visited them, and conferred with some of the leading people in the town urging them to unite in keeping the Association together, and the result was that the work was not allowed to be given up, and the Association still lives.

One new Association has been formed in the Village of Yorkville, where it was much needed, and a flourishing railroad branch in St. Thomas with comfortable reading room, etc., is now in active operation, managed by an experienced General Secretary.

The Canada Southern Railway and some of its officials have aided the work greatly, and helped to put it on a good financial basis. This work among Railway men has been much blessed; the International Conference held at St. Thomas was attended by upwards of 100 delegates principally from American and Canadian Railways, and the earnest words of our brethren from the United States, in relating their experience among Railway men, were very encouraging and inspiring, and we are pleased to state that much spiritual good resulted from this Conference to all who were present; the work in St. Thomas was specially aided, and before the sessions closed a Provincial Railway Committee was appointed to arrange for branches in the following centres in addition to those already formed in Toronto, St. Thomas and Montreal, viz: Stratford, Brantford, Sarnia, Hamilton, London, Port Edward, Port Hope, Cobourg, Kingston, Belleville and Brockville, and some meetings for that purpose have been held.