

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S TENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

FROM 19TH OCTOBER, 1876, TO 13TH SEPTEMBER, 1877.

DEAR BRETHREN,—Another year finds us gathered in Convention to report on the important work committed to our trust. And at the outset we desire to express our heartfelt thanks to Almighty God for sparing us in health and strength to meet once more to discuss the work of our Associations and to ask God's blessing on it. We also feel much joy in having with us this year so many of our beloved brethren from the Maritime Provinces whom we have long wished to know personally. May this our first Dominion Convention be rich in blessing. We regret that we have not a more encouraging report to present, and that so little progress has been made, yet we desire not to be unthankful for the marked blessing of God that has been vouchsafed to our work in some places. For the shortcoming, the want of progress, or even the apparent retrogression, we do not wish entirely to exculpate ourselves, yet we cannot help feeling that the fault has not been altogether ours. You will remember that before accepting office from the last Convention we explained the difficulties of the work, and urged upon you the importance of employing another man. It was evident that Mr. Crombie was called more to Evangelistic work than to the proper work of a Travelling Secretary; yet all were unwilling that his connection with our Associations should cease. It was with the distinct understanding that either we should be supplied with funds to employ a second officer, or doing our best with Mr. Crombie should not be expected to meet all the requirements of the field, that we undertook the task. Repeated circulars have been sent out, and we have in other ways endeavoured to raise funds. The Associations have not responded to our requests, and it required all our efforts to keep things going at all. We trust the members of the Convention will bear these facts in mind when considering this report, which we now beg to submit.

Sixty-one Associations were on our roll last year, nine new ones have been organized since the last Convention at the following places: Alton, Brampton, Midland, Minissing, Owen Sound, Brussels, Caledonia, Norwich and the Plains. The last four named have since died for want of executive oversight and visiting. Associations in Belleville, Woodstock and New Market have been re-organized during the year, we hope on a firmer basis than before. Floating reports have also reached us that Associations have been formed in several other small places, but being unable to get the names of reliable persons to correspond with, we are not in a position to report anything concerning them.

The Corresponding Secretary of this Committee has had a great amount of work placed upon him; he has given about two hours a day since the London Convention in correspondence, visiting, &c. We have to lament the carelessness of many of the Associations in neglecting to answer letters and circulars repeatedly sent them, asking for information, as it was our intention to present a correct and complete tabulated list of Associations. The following is as nearly correct as it is possible for us to obtain, having telegraphed to fifteen places to find out about the dead ones. We hope the Delegates present will examine and make any needed corrections, so that it may appear in our annual report as a reliable source of information.

Mr. CROMBIE has visited the following places since the last Convention:—*Sarnia*, one and a-half days, good meetings. *London*, seventeen days, partial success. *Ingersoll*, twenty-eight days, great success, many souls saved and the Association much revived and strengthened. *Woodstock*, fourteen days, successful meetings, additions to the churches, but the Association little benefited. *Barrie*, twenty-two days, great awakening, churches all