

Association work, and a more fully realized dependance upon God for everything needed, both as to power for service, and financial and other aids wherewith to carry on the work.

ANNUAL MEETING.

At our 17th Annual Meeting, held on Tuesday evening, 5th inst. a large number of members assembled, and a most pleasant and profitable evening was spent. In fact it was remarked by some of the older members that they looked upon the meeting as one, comparing most favorably with those of former years. With one or two exceptions, full reports were presented by the Committees. Our space will not permit of details, but the following extracts will prove of interest.

Tract Committee has 15 active workers who have distributed 52,820 English tracts, 200 French, 100 Illustrated papers, 520 Testaments and Gospels, 50,000 Gospel slips. Visits to vessels, 236; to hotels, 176; to boat-houses, 144; fire stations, 76; to other places, 13. 12 Meetings have been held on vessels; 70 persons spoken to personally concerning Christ.

BOYS WORK.—Average attendance at Meetings, 29. God has been pleased through his Holy Spirit to lead several of the boys to a knowledge of Himself.

BOARDING HOUSES.—56 Meetings have been held with an average attendance of 20.

RECEPTION.—Notwithstanding many drawbacks, this work has been carried on with good results.

LECTURES.—Last years course resulted in a profit of about \$900.

DEVOTIONAL.—Noon Meetings, average attendance, 40; Young Men's Bible Class, on Monday evening, average 20; Evangelistic Bible Class, Sabbath afternoon, average 70; Sabbath Morning Bible Class, average, 10; Young Men's Meetings, average, 65; Gospel & Song Service, Sabbath evening, average, 200.

RAILROAD.—The report read by Mr. Burford was most encouraging in all its details, and it is cause for gratitude to learn by the financial statement that the work has been fully provided for and a balance of about \$20 on hand.

The financial position of the Associa-

tion, as shewn by the Treasurer's Statement, is not quite as good as last year, but the expense has been exceptionally great, owing to the fact that a new boiler has been secured at a cost of over \$500.

Taking a view of the whole year's work, we feel constrained to adopt Paul's words and say, "We thank God and take courage."

ENCOURAGEMENT.

At the close of our Annual Meeting, a young man was found waiting in a room adjoining the office. He said he wished to speak to the Secretary. After taking him by the hand. He said "I suppose you do not remember me, but I am the person to whom you gave an order for a night's lodging, some weeks ago." He then referred to his utter destitution and heart weariness that night, and said that when he had received the aid he needed and heard the words of encouragement spoken, he determined "to try and do what is right for the future." He had secured work the day following and had been busily engaged until the present. He was to start in a few hours for a city in the States where he had prospects of better wages but he "did not wish to leave the city without expressing his gratitude." This may seem to some a very simple occurrence, but to a Secretary who meets hundreds of cases where gratitude seems altogether lacking, and in a work which is pre-eminently one of faith, such an event as this is very encouraging, in fact, it is an *oasis* in the *desert*. If we measured success by the record of grateful words received, we fear that we should abandon the field altogether. But we have this glorious encouragement, that in the final day of reckoning we shall not be held responsible for results or success. The plaudit will be, "Well done good and *faithful* (not *successful*) servant. We may not see success, but we can all be faithful. Let us therefore sow beside all waters. The reaping time will come bye and bye. "For in due season we shall reap if we faint not."

He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.—Eccl. xi. 4.