

in some districts the instruction of the young is sadly neglected. Children, without christian parents, are left to grow to adult age without a knowledge of those truths which alone are needful to save the soul and reform the life. By means of a Sabbath School, under the blessing of God, these precious souls may be plucked from the paths of the destroyer, directed into ways of righteousness and peace, trained for service here and glory hereafter.

The value of the soul, its lost state, the provision of mercy in the death of Christ, the interests of our churches and the general welfare of the community together, call for renewed and earnest effort in behalf of the rising generation.

Respectfully submitted,

H. BOOL, *Chairman.*

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REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee regard with much pleasure the present hopeful condition of our *Home Missionary* affairs. The pleasing announcement is made by the Secretary of the Board that the burdensome debt which retarded the work of our Union is now entirely liquidated. Whilst this cheering fact should greatly encourage our brethren in sustaining the interests of Home Missions, it should not be regarded as furnishing any reason for diminishing our contributions for the future. The work accomplished during the past year has been very satisfactory. Eighteen missionaries have been under engagement; upwards of one hundred baptisms have been recorded; and more than \$5000 have been expended through this agency.

The Home Mission Board has, in the opinion of your Committee, given deserved attention and made satisfactory expenditures in connection with the missionary fields embraced within the precincts of the Eastern Association. This must be obvious from the fact that during the past four years more than \$2000 have been expended on these fields in excess of the amount contributed by our churches within the same period.

The *French Mission* still demands our hearty sympathy and liberal assistance. The mission is one of difficulty, but many trophies of grace have already been secured on this field. Bro. Normond reports upwards of seventy conversions since his entrance upon the work of that mission. These successes in the past encourage us to hope for still more glorious results in the future.

Your Committee regard the work of *missions to the heathen* as one of immeasurable importance and greatness. It is evident, both from His commands and predictions, that the Lord Jesus Christ intended His church to be aggressive in the highest degree, by