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missionary prayer-meetings. Not more than one-third of the churches now hold them. They constitute about the only means by which all classes can be reached with information on this great subject, and their sympathies and united prayers elicited.

Half the pastors responding to the request of your Committee report an improvement in the spiritual condition of their churches; three-quarters of the rest speak very encouragingly, while one-quarter of the whole number do not think there has been any advance. On the whole, the pastors seem to be pressing their work with courage and confidence.

Your Committee have found it very difficult to gather in the statistics from the churches. They have had to depend upon the Clerks of the Associations, and they again upon the Clerks of the churches. Reports have failed to be sent by three Associations, and those from two Associations are not full enough to be of much service. The twelve Associations from which the most complete returns have been received give data sufficient for purposes of comparison.

Statistics have been received from churches having a total membership of 22,581 at the beginning of the year. There have been added to these churches by baptism, 1,238; by letter, 821; experience, 156; restoration, 67; a total of 2,282. These churches have lost by letter, 902; by death, 215; erasure, 521; exclusion, 72; a total of 1,709. Giving a net gain of 573. If these churches have had about the average accessions and losses in membership, when the full returns are in there will be about 2,100 baptisms, and a next gain of about 1,000—about the same as last year.

While there has been no district which has been swept by any great revival, a very large proportion of our churches have had accessions by baptism. The appended tabular statement shows that 146 churches have received additions, while 66 have received none; six have received over 30 by baptism, 14 between 20 and 30, 20 between 10 and 20, and 106 less than 10. There is evidence in this that our churches are depending more and more upon the regular means of grace, and are having a steady growth.