

Historical Sketch.

"Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."—1 SAM. 7: 12.

This organization was established for the special purpose of Gospel work among the neglected and non-church-going classes and dates back to Thanksgiving Day, November 29, 1894. At that time a little band of Christian workers who had been associated together many years previously in Gospel work held a reunion at a church in Delaware county, Pa. Under a powerful outpouring of the Divine Spirit, some of those present, belonging to different denominations, reorganized for practical Christian work on union lines.

During the few months following many seasons of prayer were held, resulting in a desire to engage in Gospel wagon work. A light omnibus was hired and the first wagon meeting held on June 4, 1895. Soon a large Gospel wagon from Baltimore, Md., was providentially offered for the work, which continued through the summer with unmistakable evidences of divine approval.

Upon the approach of cool weather weekly seasons of prayer for guidance were again held, and in November a request for aid came from the mission and Sunday-school at Twenty-third and Jefferson streets, where the work was being abandoned for