

An hour later Mr. Alfred Harris came out of the hall. He shook hands with Mr. Douglas and the other residents, and started down the street. It was his last day in Merton.

As he reached the corner, he stopped and looked back. The children came out of the hall, and were standing about the minister and his wife. Inez Carlton and her mother were standing on the steps just above the group. The whole scene impressed the newspaper man profoundly.

An elderly man touched his arm.

"It's been worth while, don't you think?"

"O, it's you, Mr. Brooks. 'Worth while!' I should say so. Why cannot the same thing be done in every city where the need is as great?"

"It can, if——," the lawyer paused thoughtfully a moment.

"If——," said Mr. Alfred Harris, looking gravely at the lawyer.