

Now, in conclusion, a few more words regarding the work being carried out by Miss Macpherson, and her fellow-labourers. Sound religious instruction, combined with moral training, are made the basis of all their operations; their object being to employ instruction, not as an *end*, but as a *means* of forming and disciplining character; and this is far more the work of Home, than the work of School, where the children of the poor must often be taught *en masse*, and individual training,—the weaning from what is bad, and instilling into them what is good,—the preparation, in fact, of the whole character, for time and eternity, to become either a blessing or a curse to society—is next to impossible. The effect of this Home training on the character of those poor little ones, is most remarkable; and no one can have visited the training Homes at Hackney without being struck with the sight of the happy-looking, obedient, and well-conducted boys, and girls, lately rescued from scenes of vice and misery—some of them the roughest of the rough—and who, in religious knowledge, as well as in ordinary secular teaching, would bear comparison, I venture to say, with children of like age, in many of our elementary schools. What a contrast to their late condition!—half-starved, ignorant, ragged, desolate.

One other important feature in the arrangement of this Institution, as well as in the distributing homes in Canada, is the economy and prudence with which they are conducted. They have no salaried secretary, or expensive staff, only such paid service as is actually necessary; the whole work done by the ladies by whom they are managed,—and most arduous and responsible work it is—being entirely gratuitous. Besides a Refuge for these friendless little ones, the Home in Spitalfields has been the resort of the poor and destitute of every kind, and it would be difficult to name any form of human misery and need which has not been relieved and blessed there.

If, as I trust, I have shown in these pages the great usefulness of this work, and that it would be difficult to point out one more practical, more feasible, and that has been attended with greater success, I venture to hope that all who have at heart the moral and social elevation of these long neglected children, and who