

almost impossible to give the average yearly admission into these Houses, as they differ materially in accommodation and means of support, but it varies from 25 to 1,500.

The Church of England temperance work is not left sufficiently in the hands of women to be claimed as a branch of this work proper, albeit they give very important aid, but the excellent and hopeful preventive and reformatory work is largely entrusted to female direction with the best results. It is carried on in various ways by earnest experienced workers, who are untiring in their care and watchfulness. The ladies associations for the care of friendless girls, with which the well known name of Miss Ellice Hopkins is prominently associated, are 100 in number and constantly increasing. The Young Woman's Help Society, with 72 branches has been in duration only seven years, but is found most useful. The Parochial Mission Woman's Association, working amid the very poor, and forming a link with the other societies, even with the Church itself, are great help. Two hundred of these women are employed, the larger number in the Diocese of London.

The Girls' Friendly Society, of which the Queen is patron, is assuming vast proportions. In England and Wales alone there are 101,000 members, 24,000 associates and 850 branches, besides the sister societies in Scotland, Ireland, America and some of the Colonies, also in one part of India. This great organization has for its motto, the injunction, "Bear ye one another's burdens," the members and associates being banded together for mutual help, sympathy and prayer. After listening to such statements as these it is with a feeling of surprise that we learn the Church of England Missionary Society organized at the close of the last century, and sending out 557 missionaries to 271 stations, have but 20 female missionaries. We remark in passing that the recent opening by this Society of a mission at Quetta on the Afghan frontier, which holds, so to speak, the key of Central Asia, will, it is hoped, open up new and valuable fields for woman's work; the Ladies' Union for London, with six hundred members, labors in connection with the Church Missionary Society. It also seems noteworthy that the London Missionary Society, 92 years in existence, with 1,367 missionaries working in many districts and expending yearly more than £124,000 sterling should send out only 27 female missionaries. These significant facts seem to call aloud for a reply. Who will give it? In addition to the above it may be mentioned that the Universities' Mission to Central Africa have twelve female missionaries on their staff. There is much that might be told of the Home Mission works, in which women of different denominations are equally interested with those of the Church of England, and when they meet on common ground such as the Young Woman's Church Association, the Working Girl's Homes, Homes for Friendless Women, Strangers' Shelters, Female Scriptural Readers' Associations, Flower Mission,

Christmas Letter Missions, Ragged Schools, Mothers' Meetings, Rough Teas, and many other valuable and interesting works; but though in full practical sympathy with such labors, and deeply sensible of their importance time restricts us on this occasion to the contemplation of some of the works of the Church with which we are immediately connected, and all those truly interesting details are of necessity omitted. If we turn to the world of letters great is the company of women who publish the glad tidings, who heartily consecrate their high talents to the Lord's works only, and as said by the late Miss Havergal, herself a devoted laborer to this special field, seem to receive their almost inspired utterances direct from His hand. So sacred is such work, that we but call attention to it as a very blessed ministry, lifted far above our praise or criticism, and of a usefulness to which we can put no limit.

Amongst woman's work in other than our own land not distinctively missionary, partly because unsectarian, we may instance that of Viscountess Strangford in the East, and more recently in Egypt, also the good services rendered by Lady Houlton at Malta, and Lady Brassey at Gibraltar, in connection with the Ancient Order of St. John of Jerusalem (revived in England about fifty years ago), which though too cosmopolitan to be denominational, is purely Christian, and is devoted to good deeds done in the spirit of their Divine Master, and thus most truly missionary, inasmuch as all work done in the service of Christ, whether for Jew or Gentile, must come within the shelter of his universal Church, of which He is the one foundation.

The Dames Chevalieres of this Order have upon their roll the Princess of Wales, Princess Christian and her Royal sisters, and many ladies of high rank. The few members of the Order in Canada have not any females among their number, but women are extensively associated with some branches of the work carried on both at home and abroad. Their handbooks of instruction in the care of the sick are translated for use in the Christian Girls' Schools at Lodiana, India, connected with the Society for Promoting Female Education in the East, and the training of Copt or European-Egyptian women as hospital nurses is one of the special works carried on by them in the Victoria Hospital, established by Lady Strangford at Cairo, of which the Queen is joint patron with his Highness, the Khedive of Egypt.

If time had permitted even of a glimpse of the numerous grand philanthropic undertakings, the direction and the furtherance of which occupies the attention of so many earnest women, as well as the labors performed by all those engaged in such branches of Church work as are difficult to give in detail with results that cannot be tabulated, what a noble army would be as it were brought out before us. If in recurring to the subject named for this paper we remember the more than Laodicean tendencies of the preceding age when Quietism wore