

of the children, which at the first opening of the school amounted to scarcely more than a score, in a few years had increased to 500.

After the Revolution of 1848, and the accession of the Emperor Napoleon to the French throne, in consequence of the vast improvements taking place in Paris, and the increased cleanliness of the streets, many more German Protestants came to enlist into the *Corps des Balayeurs*. These, with their families, also settled in the Quartier St. Marcel, in the vicinity of the mission, and the result was that the chapel and schools, although considerable additions had been made to them, were at least utterly inadequate to the requirements of the *balayeur* community. A fresh appeal was made to the liberality of the wealthy portion of the French Protestants residing in Paris, which was generously responded to. An extensive plot of ground was purchased, and a handsome chapel, with large and commodious schools, built on it. To these was attached an orphanage, and the whole surrounded by spacious playgrounds and gardens, and the old mission buildings abandoned. With increased accommodation, not only did the number of worshippers attending the chapel increase in proportion, but the schools, in a short time, were filled with scholars almost to overflowing. Without counting the children in the infant, in the other schools, even in the year 1856 the scholars male and female, amounted to between 600 and 700, the majority of them being children of the *balayeurs*. A singular circumstance was observed among some of the other children attending these schools, which is well worthy of remark. From time to time, some poor child of parents who lived at a distance from the mission would apply at the schools and request to be admitted as a scholar. These applicants, appearing to have had but little religious education—so little, in fact, that it was difficult to know whether they were Protestant or Roman Catholic—excited the curiosity of the teachers, and they discovered that there were many poor families in the district whose ancestors had been Protestant, but, from having no opportunity of following their religion, they had become half Catholic, while still holding in respect the faith of their fathers.

As a rule, the *balayeurs* are a remarkably well-conducted body. They are also respectably educated; not two per cent. of the women are unable to read and write. Their children also, all of whom attend the mission schools, are highly intelligent. Many among them speak both French and German with great accuracy and fluency. Both parents and children are regular attendants at the religious services in the chapel. One Sunday evening we accompanied their pastor, the Rev. Mr. Mast, to the evening service. It being a fine day in summer, there was a comparatively small attendance; still there were fully 500 *balayeurs* present, and a more attentive congregation it was never our good fortune to behold. The singing was particularly good, and the melodies of the hymns very beautiful, yet simple. Many of the hymns were as old as the days of Luther, and most of them of German origin. We were all much pleased with the appearance of both men and women, all of whom were well dressed and scrupulously clean; yet a few hours later, and the whole congregation would be pursuing the unattractive occupation of scavengering the streets of a populous city.

A visit to the Evangelical Mission of the Quartier St. Marcel would repay thereader the time and trouble it would cost. It is certainly one of the most complete institutions of the kind we have ever seen, and we have visited many. The external appearance of the building is very handsome. In the front portion are the apartments of the director, the lady superintendent of the infant school, and the principal master of the boys' school. On the ground floor, to the right, are the offices of the institution; on the left, the infant schools. In the upper lateral storeys are a boarding school and orphanage for girls. The cost of each child in either department, is about twenty shillings a month, the friends or patrons of the child finding her outfit.—A very large proportion of the orphans are supported by subscription raised among the *balayeurs*. Their occupation is a most unhealthy one—for women especially, who are much subject to diseases of the lungs; and when they die, they frequently leave young families totally unprovided for. The care and consideration shown by the *balayeurs* to these poor children are often very touching; and the orphans, in many cases, experience more kindness than they would had their parents been living.

In other parts of the building the separate school-rooms for the boys' French and German classes, and others for the girls. The chapel is in the centre. The children are generally healthy and cleanly, though there is no difficulty in detecting that many among them had been accustomed to severe privation. They usually bring their dinner (which too frequently consists only of a slice of dry bread) to school with them. Those whose parents are in better circumstances bring a *sou* with them to purchase a portion of haricots or some other cooked vegetable, of a poor woman who is allowed to enter the school building at dinner-time.

In consequence of the great extension of the city of Paris during the reign of the Emperor, not only was the *Corps des Balayeurs* greatly increased, but, from the distance many of them had to walk to the field of their labors, it was found advisable to establish offshoots from the parent establishment in the Quartier St. Marcel—one at La Villette, the other at the Batignolles. In each there are a chapel and schools. At the Villette branch all are Lutherans. The congregation, most of German descent, is very numerous, and there are at least five hundred children in the schools. The buildings are (or, at least, were before the war) very picturesque, and an ornament to the People's Park, near which they are situated. Singularly enough, the site of the mission at La Villette, like that of the one in the Quartier St. Marcel, has many interesting historical reminiscences connected with the religious persecutions of bygone days. Near the spot where the mission church now stands, were burned immense numbers of the victims of the massacre of St. Bartholomew's. It was near the mission also where the body of the Protestant Admiral Coligny was hung on a gibbet, after having been for three days dragged about the streets of Paris, exposed to every sort of outrage and insult from the Roman Catholic mob.

The other great offshoot from the parent establishment is congregated around the chapel and schools in the Batignolles, which are under the direction of Pastor Müller. The children in the schools number about