

Miss Rye has taken a good deal of trouble to contradict a remark which I made at the close of my Report, to the effect that I had been informed that she had taken up so large a number as 50 children for distribution to New London. She has got an affidavit and other evidence to contradict the statement of my informant as to the number of children so taken up. I observe, however, that what she contradicts with reference to New London is nevertheless perfectly true with respect to Chatham. Her friend Mr. Stephenson, M.P., states that in the year 1874 she brought up from 50 to 60 children to Chatham, the greater portion of whom were taken to their new homes "immediately upon their arrival in town." The way in which these new homes were obtained for them was described to me, in the presence of a local magistrate, by two of the children and the mistress of one. The children, from 50 to 60 of them, were ranged round the Public Hall, on view, with their backs to the walls, while persons seeking them came in one by one, and selected the child to which he or she might happen to take a fancy. Now, if that were an objectionable way of disposing of these children, it matters little whether the circumstance occurred at Chatham or at London, and it would have been less uncandid to have stated that the circumstance to which I had referred occurred at Chatham, and not at London, instead of parading an affidavit which was calculated, if not intended, to give the impression that it had not occurred anywhere.

In my Report, I observed that, "whereas at least 90 per cent. of the pauper children who are sent as emigrants to Canada, have been brought up as Members of the Church of England, full 90 per cent. of those placed out in the country attend the places of religious worship, when they attend at all, of some denomination of Protestant Dissenters, Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, or of Bible Christians." That statement I must again bring under your notice, as I observe that considerable pains are taken, not to contradict it, for it cannot be contradicted, but to misrepresent the object with which it was made, and by that means, to divert the attention of guardians from a matter that some of them at least will regard as important, and which at all events ought not to be kept back from any of them. Every pauper child that Miss Rye has taken from this country, being a member of the Church of England, would, if kept at home, be brought up in communion with the Church of England. The law so provides, and guardians are careful, as a rule, to protect that legal right of the child. But under Miss Rye's system, the security of the "Creed Register" is set at naught, and the provision of the law completely disregarded. It is not through carelessness, still less, I need hardly say, from design; but owing partly to the position of the Church of England in Canada, still more to the condition of society in a sparsely populated and peculiarly "settled" province, that so large a proportion of these workhouse children are so placed, that either they do not attend any place of religious worship at all, or when they do, it is not of their own denomination.

I stated in my Report of 1874 that the receipts upon account of pauper emigration during the years 1873 and 1874 very considerably exceeded the expenditure.

For having made that statement I am accused, and I must add abused, as having imputed mercenary motives as alone influencing those who are engaged in this work of emigration. I attributed no motives. I made a specific statement, and by that statement I abide. The audit of accounts "from the beginning," in which public subscriptions and contributions by guardians are mixed up, and credit appears to be taken for the purchase out of these funds of property which elsewhere Miss Rye states "was bought by her own money, by money which she earned by writing for the press in England," all this has nothing whatever to do with the statement that I made, although it may divert attention from it. With reference, however, to this Western Home, I find the following question and answer in Miss Rye's examination before the Committee:—"Q. Mr. Doyle states that the 'Western Home' of Miss Rye, at Niagara, is the old gaol of the town, bought for Miss Rye by subscription, and so altered and improved as to be in many respects a suitable building; please state whether the Western Home was so purchased, and if not, how it was purchased?"—"A. The house was not bought for me; it was bought by money which I earned by writing for the press in England." I can only say that