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REPORT.

As Reports are a literature not much read even by those to whom they are sent, little encouragement is given to those who draw them up. We are therefore afraid to go very deeply into the subject of Reformatories and Industrial Schools, as it would probably be love's labour lost. But one thing we must do, and as clearly and briefly as possible. We must tell our friends of what is actually done in Halifax now by means of the school they maintain, for the reclamation of boys to the paths of industry and virtue, and give them some idea of what remains to be done.

Why was our Institution established? What does it aim at accomplishing? Is there a need, and is this a wise way of meeting this need? If Christian men and women are satisfied on these points, there will be a hearty response made to our every call, and so all that we now ask of them is to examine.

The prime aim of our Institution is the prevention of crime by cutting off the supply. Two great questions in social science seem to be taxing all the wisdom and energy of modern civilization. What shall we do with our pauper class, and what shall we do with our criminals, are the questions asked by Churches and States, by philanthropists, Societies, and Parliaments. For those are two terrible cancers eating into the very heart of the body politic, and—if not eradicated or at least checked—threatening its very life. With the first we have not to deal specially now, though there is a relation between the two that makes it impossible to touch the one without the other feeling it. But the second is black enough and big enough to engage all our attention at present.

For a long time the only method society took of fighting crime was by punishment. The prison, the hulks, the lash,

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