

it or who takes an interest in or is supposed to be responsible for the ordinary visiting or inspection of the children. I had thus an opportunity of observing how that duty is discharged. I then proceeded to visit the other children by myself, and to inquire generally into their condition and treatment.

Miss Macpherson desires it to be understood that her work is and always has been essentially, if not exclusively, of a missionary character. Except in the greater care and liberality with which it is carried on, I do not see in what material respect it differs from that of Miss Rye, or of any other agency for the promotion of emigration. These ladies bring out the same class of children and profess to distribute them on the same principle. They obtain their funds from the same sources, subscriptions and payment by Guardians, and both receive from the Governments of the Dominion and of the Province of Ontario considerable assistance "in aid of emigration." Miss Rye's account of her system will be found in her Circular A. in Appendix. The object at which Miss Macpherson aims and the means adopted to attain it are explained in publications in which from time to time she records the progress of her efforts. "From the time," she writes, "that we became residents in Canada, and had a Home from which to distribute them, we have followed out our original idea of becoming parents to these rescued children, rather than simple emigration agents to supply the labour market. As a missionary band we prayerfully wished to take a life long interest in those we sought to assist, recording their well-doing or their ill-doing upon our books, assisting the weak and sick, rewarding the industrious, and giving wholesome advice and training to those who fall back to their old habits." Describing one of "first meetings or tea parties for the wild arabs" of the East End of London, Miss Macpherson says:—"Pen cannot picture the scene at the close of this gathering when the fatherless, motherless, friendless, and bedless were invited to remain. Twenty-one lads were chosen. Their outward appearance may be imagined when we say that there were found among them only one garment retaining the form of a shirt and two pairs of boots which had been bought at rag market, 'odd 'uns,' for two-pence a pair. Their tatters, with two exceptions, were unfit to be under a roof." * * * "The difficulty of finding employment for these active spirits, owing to their want of education, brought us at once to the decision to send the elder ones to Canada." Speaking of the class of children who compose the Scotch contingent to the army of young emigrants, Mr. Quarrier writes:—"We have been frequently asked how we get the children? We go out on the streets and invite those who are needy to come to the Home. We are known to most of the street children. Some come asking to get in, and others are brought by Bible women and missionaries." * * * "What sort of homes had the children before you took them? is another question asked. I reply, the night asylum, the police office, cold stairs, haylofts, and barrels and boxes along the harbour." Writing in 1873, Miss Rye says in her annual report:—"One hundred and twenty-seven children have during the past year and a half been received into the Home from the streets and gutters, and back slums of London, and other big cities. Of these, ten have been removed by friends, or proved unsuitable to emigrate from various reasons, but the remainder were sent to Canada." Such is the class of which, after a few months or weeks preliminary training, the emigrants sent out to Canada by Miss Macpherson and Miss Rye are largely composed.

In the mode in which the two schemes are carried out there is a good deal of resemblance. Miss Rye has a "Home" at Peckham, into