

means further that systems of charitable relief, of day and Sunday schools, of district visiting, of mothers' meetings, of social and provident clubs, and all similar institutions are set on foot, in which every one to whom they apply is invited to join, not because they are members of a certain congregation, either actual or prospective, but simply because they live in the district. It means further that by the support of such institutions, the richer parishioners are privileged to aid their poorer brethren, and that all, of whatsoever social standing they may be, who have any talent or willingness to work for others, may find opportunities and stimulus for such gifts of social service.

At Ripon Cathedral last October, Dr. Farrar remarked that there was not a town or parish in England which could not bear witness to the holy influence of the clergy. In thousands of parishes, to the benefit alike of the Church and the nation, the English clergy had learned this lesson. "In quietness and confidence shall be your strength. Often in deep poverty, often living on the merest pittance, amid the daily burden of growing anxieties, they were yet working with a zeal, with a dignity, charity and self denial far beyond all that could be required of them by any voice less thrilling than that of Him who said, "Son, go work in my vineyard." Never was the Church of England more zealous, more earnest and loving than today. It was not learning, nor armies, nor wealth that was the secret of the Christian victory; It was not clamor, it was not organization, it was not vain argument which would be the bulwark of threatened churches.

### TEACHING OF A LOCKED-UP CHURCH.

The contrast between the ever open and inviting doors of Rome and the closed, forbidding doors of Protestantism, is so suggestive of a superior welcome and a more home-like character in the former that at any cost it should be avoided. And the difficulty in practice is solved wherever there is an old Church pensioner or two, who if might given small sum remain in or near the Church while open. In many places it would not be necessary even to provide this shadowy protection. The Romanists would *usually* respect the consecrated place of worship.

As to the use of the Church if left open, it is not by the measure of utility that we should settle our duty in this matter. That it would be sometimes used for prayer we have no doubt whatever; and curious enough, one of the most striking answers to prayer we have known was connected with prayer offered concurrently by two anxious hearts in an open Church on a week-day. Every now and then some parishioner, who had no retired place in his own over-crowded home, would come and make a spiritual house of the Church, especially if this use was suggested; every now and then a passer-by entering, would read and not refuse—"Whosoever thou art that enterest this Church, leave it not without one prayer for thyself, for those who minister, and for those who worship here."—*Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette*.

We never please Jesus more than when we lean our whole weight on Him.