

Report of Alexandra Industrial School for Girls.

"A mighty fortress is our God
A bulwark never failing,"

Sang Luther in the dark days of the Reformation, and millions since have taken up the strain when rendering thanks for help in hours of trial and discouragement. And at the close of a year begun in weakness, darkened by sorrow and bringing with it peculiar trials, the members of the Ladies' Committee of the Alexandra School add this to their testimony: "The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble, and He knoweth them that put their trust in Him." Among the many reasons for devout thanksgiving, we would specially mention the very marked spiritual interest that has pervaded the school during the latter part of the year. Several of the girls we believe are truly converted and show by their lives that they have taken Christ as their Saviour, and are trying at all times to follow in His footsteps. This is particularly cheering when it is remembered the unpromising material on which we have to work. Most of the children when they come under our care have almost no idea of moral responsibility. Old and harmful habits must be broken and new and healthier modes of thought inculcated and thus character, based on the principle of God's Holy Word developed. That so much has been accomplished is, under God, due to the prayerful and untiring efforts of our invaluable Superintendent, Miss Walker, and her faithful assistants, Miss Bainard and Miss Hill.

Another matter for gratitude is the almost uniform good health of the children; with the exception of occasional colds and other slight ailments, the absence of serious illness of any kind has been most marked.

On the other hand, we acknowledge, with deep sorrow, our failure to achieve all that we hoped for at the beginning of the year. We are still without a main building, the lack of which greatly hampers our work and our numbers have not increased as we anticipated. Then a change of Superintendent in the early part of the year added for a time to our cares and responsibilities. As children of God, we have verified the truth, there is no exception to the "family discipline",—"To you it is given to suffer." But