

ships advertised were not in port; this necessitated my going on to New York. I then crossed the Atlantic, and remaining in England until the 26th of June, recrossed the ocean with 65 children, having previously dispatched 71 souls on the 1st May. In September I was again in Quebec, nearly 600 miles from the Home, to meet the third and last party of children for the season, numbering 58. With these children I returned the 600 miles to the Home, and after placing out the whole of the children, at the end of October I went into the West, visiting the children in the neighborhood of Mount Forest, where I have about 30 little ones under the care of Sydney Smith, J.P., who for a very long time has most kindly assisted me in the work. There the children came to tea with me, and we had a very happy little gathering. After a week spent in Mount Forest I went on to Arthur; saw the six or seven children I have there, went on from there to Fergus, from there to Guelph, from Guelph to London, in all of which places I have children, and visited nearly all of them. From London I went to Port Stanley, Sherwood, Petrolia, and lastly to Chatham, returning by Woodstock—on the same errand to all places.

On my return to Niagara, I made up my book from memoranda gathered on the journey; made copies of the placing out of the children for the year; made another journey East, making in all rather more than 6000 miles of railway work within the year in Canada alone; when I crossed the Atlantic for the third time, and came back to England to dive into your slums and the sighs and sorrows of your great city. But this is not quite all. Do not misunderstand me, because I speak so brightly and happily of my Canadian work, that there is no dark side to the picture. Alas! how could it be otherwise, knowing what we do of these poor children and their parentage, to say nothing of the weakness and sinfulness of human nature. Here is my "Black Book"—the Book of the replacement of my children, and the causes that have brought them back to the Home. You will see by this book that up to December, 1873, I have had 181 children returned to me, or have been removed by me for various causes, some for very trivial reasons, others for gross wickedness and immoralities. Many of the children, as you will see, have been placed by me 3, 4 and 5, and one 10 times over. To use the words of a friend, this part of the work is a kind of "cheerful despair." But as we know, if we do not bear with these children no one else will; we persevere, and by and bye, here too we shall have our reward.

In conclusion, the question is often asked me, "Why do these Canadians take these children?" I think there are three chief reasons. First of all, people in Canada marry very early in life; the young people follow their parents' example; and at 45 or 50 many an excellent and well-to-do couple find themselves alone, and their children settled perhaps 100 miles or more from the old homestead. Such people are constantly writing me, "Can't you give us a little girl. We don't think we are too old to bring up a second family; little ones about a place make it cheerful; they save steps, and we could do well for her." Yes, and they do well for them, the child sharing in the hopes, the cares and the pleasures of the home, as well as in the work. Secondly, some persons want the children for actual domestic service, and offer them much better homes than workhouse girls can get into here in England. Thirdly, there are some few godly persons, who have sympathy with the work from Christ-like motives—