

saw the need of such a work, they did not see the way to meet the expenses that would be incurred, and therefore could not undertake it. Miss Barber then put the subject before the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, who, too, saw the need, but had not the money necessary; however, at her urgent entreaty, the Union promised a certain sum to cover rent of a hall for three months, as an experiment, if Miss Barber would assume all other responsibility. On the evening of the 7th of March, 1886, the first meeting was held with a fair attendance. The meetings were continued for three months, but the location was not the most desirable, and the Union, thinking that results did not warrant further expense, withdrew their support. The experiment, however, deepened the conviction in Miss Barber's heart that there were very many lonely, homesick girls, away from home influence and restraints, who, for lack of some bright, home-like place, where they felt they had a right to go when their day's work was done, naturally took to walking the streets, stopping, now and again, to look into the shop windows, thereby making themselves easy prey for evil, designing persons, just watching for the unsuspecting to lure them to their ruin; yet who, if such a place were opened, where they always felt sure of a welcome, would gladly avail themselves of it, and much would be done to stem the tide of evil and many a girl would be saved for a life of usefulness.

Day by day, and night after night, the subject pressed heavily upon Miss Barber's heart until she felt sure the voice of God was calling her to definite action, and in *sole dependence* upon God for support, on the 18th of June, 1886,