

visit regularly; about two thirds of these are coloured people. About one hundred children were found not going to any Sabbath School, though old enough to attend, and I have an impression that perhaps as many more of the same class—both of adults and children may yet be found scattered over the district.

All the means usually employed in city mission work in this city have been used in my district; and God has granted an encouraging measure of success in the use of these means, such as the mission Sabbath school, the night school, the meeting of adults for religious services, and visiting from house to house.

A Sabbath school was opened in Vincoves's room, on the 9th of June, we began with two scholars; but our numbers have been growing since that afternoon, and we now have about 100 on the roll, and the attendance is between 60 and 70. Very good order is maintained, and much interest is showed in the school, both by the scholars and their parents; but it is sad to find such deplorable ignorance as we have met with in some of these children. I may give a few specimens of the answers we have had from boys 10 and 12 years of age, "God or angels were supposed to have killed the Saviour, and Christ was said to be now in heaven, eating honey and milk." When asked about the Lord's Prayer, or the ten commandments, the most wild and foolish answers have been given, showing entire ignorance of either. Righteousness has been explained as meaning "to be lazy." Meekness as "not to mind your mother," and Facemakers supposed to mean "Tailors." I trust that better answers could be given now, and I may mention the case of one little fellow, who having never been taught to pray till he came to our school, now goes night and morning to his careless and godless father, and asks him to hear him pray. Perhaps the school may thus prove a blessing, not to the child alone, but to his godless father also.

At the night school we have over 30 scholars, about the half of whom did not know the alphabet when they first came, and most of these can now read words of three and four letters, and cipher in simple addition.

Vincoves's Room has proved unsuitable for meetings of adults, being too far from the streets I visit in most, and after trying in vain to induce any number of them to come to meetings there, the Committee allowed me in November, to rent a room in City Street, and open a meeting in the midst of those who are living there in ignorance, poverty and vice, and the result has been very encouraging. Every Wednesday and Sabbath evening we have present from 20 to 40 of those who go to no other

religious meetings, and who seem to feel deeply the appeals made to them from God's Word. One woman said to me, "your meetings are having a great effect upon my husband, who used to drink, and lead a careless life, but he is becoming quite changed."

Perhaps the most important part of a city missionary's work is visiting from house to house; and during the last 9 months I have made over 1100 visits for reading, conversation and prayer, thus carrying the gospel to hundreds who seldom, if ever heard it in any other way, and I trust it has been carried with divine power to the hearts of more than one of them. Among other instances of encouragement, I may refer to the following:—Some time ago I visited at the house of a man, who seemed much amused at my calling to read and pray with him, he scarcely spoke, but folding his arms, and putting his head to one side he stared at me, with a most comical look, while I read and spoke to him from the word of God, after prayer I gave him a tract,—entitled, the "Accepted time," and left the house with a feeling of discouragement, thinking that my visit there at least, had been in vain. But on going back not long ago, his wife said she was so glad to see me, she wanted to tell me how much my former visit and the tract I left had been blessed, both to herself and her husband, he had read it over again, always putting it away carefully when done, and that though both of them were now well advanced in life, nothing they had ever heard or read had such an effect upon them, as the tract I had left. Another poor woman who is not likely to live long, but who seems happy in Christ, said to me some weeks ago that she "blessed God that I had ever come to Halifax and visited her, as I had been a principle means, under God of leading her to the Saviour." If so, to God be all the glory.

Thus I have given you a few facts and incidents connected with my mission work, and would now express the hope, that what has thus been so encouragingly begun, will not be allowed to fall to the ground, but that it will be sustained, and that the blessing of God may rest upon the work from which I retire, not from any want of interest, or of success, but from private reasons to which I need not here refer.

In conclusion, though I know that Miss McVicar, whose report has just been read, needs no commendation from me, yet it gives me pleasure to testify, as I can from personal knowledge of her faithful and arduous work. Her reports do not anything like show what she is really doing, and I have felt all summer how much more might have been accomplished, if your Bible woman and city missionary had been at work in the same district.