

depôts for sale at a very low price to those who are still poorer. Any who know to what straits the poor are often put to get decent clothing will understand the benefit conferred by the establishment of one of these depôts for the sale of second-hand clothing in a poor neighbourhood. The following extract from the journal of one of our number in charge of a depôt will convey some idea of the warm appreciation they meet with.

'We all have our feelings of proper pride. Even ragged little Polly objected when her mother wished her to wear one blue stocking and one grey. She said she did not like being "queer." A ragged frock would call forth no comment in their slatternly neighbourhood, but a pair of parti-coloured little legs would invite remark, and the remarks in that street are more apt to be candid than polite. So Polly stuck firmly to her opinion, and her mother came to one of our sales of old clothing in search of a match for the odd stockings, or failing that a "same coloured pair." The results of the shopping were very satisfactory, for the good woman was heard to say as she went out, "Well, I've got pretty well all I wanted, that I have. A pair of boots for my man, and things for the little 'uns, and even some wool slippers for old granny to keep her feet warm—beauties I call 'em—won't she be pleased, poor old soul!"

"This sale," said another, "I do think is the greatest kindness of all to us poor folks. Never a bit of time have I, to cut out and make for my seven. Why, it's a job to keep 'em in clean pinnies fit for school. I do say this place is a real blessing, and there isn't a mother here that wouldn't say the same. It's like this, you see: one week I bring a bit of money and make some of 'em tidy; next week I bring a bit more and pick up for the other children, and so we go round and keep ourselves respectable-like, thanks to them that sends and to them that sells."

'Another customer had a heavy burden in her arms which was observed by the bystanders. "It's a rug or something of that sort," she explained. "I hardly understand the make of it. I'm a-goin' to put it on my bed, for with my rheumatics I suffer dreadfully with the cold o' nights. It's a bit heavy, but it'll be all the warmer for that, and it's that well put together it'll last me a lifetime!"

How little the kind friend who had sent us a well-worn tiger-skin mat guessed to what use it would be put! When we explained what the rug was, quite a crowd gathered round its fortunate possessor.

'Well, this beats all,' said our chilly friend, 'to think of that fierce wild beast coming all the way from India a-purpose to lie on my bed and keep me warm o' winter nights!'

The profits made at these depôts go to support our Homes, so that those who can make no better use of old clothing in their own neighbourhood do well in sending it to us.

As the spring advances we have many appeals for free letters for the Convalescent Home at Broadstairs. The Maintenance Fund of that Home is exceedingly small, and without help we cannot issue these free letters. We long to send off a number of the little frail children from our large towns to S. Mary's Home, where the good sea breezes may take away their pains, and their pale cheeks may grow round and rosy. But at present it is impossible, the expenses are so heavy. We can only ask our friends to help us by contributions to the Maintenance Fund, by gifts towards sending those children there, who seem to be in saddest need of good air and food and nursing, or by paying the expenses of any child they may wish to send.

The Rev. Edward T. Woollard, Springhill, Nova Scotia, writes: 'Give my grateful thanks to the kind donor who so regularly sends *The Guardian*, the BANNER OF FAITH, and many smaller publications. They are most welcome, coming as they do from my native land. It cheers one exceedingly in this not over genial climate to receive tidings of work done for Christ in the old country and elsewhere. The papers bear the post-mark of Tenby.'

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The Orphanage of Mercy and S. Mary's Convalescent Home are not local institutions. They receive destitute orphans and sick children from all parts of the country.

Cards for collecting shillings up to 30s. and pence up to 10s. will be forwarded on application. Gifts, such as fancy work, old and new clothing of all kinds, boots and shoes, blankets, bedding, crockery, fruit, vegetables, groceries, books, toys, are always very welcome.

Contributions will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Miss Helen Wetherell and Miss Frances Ashdown, Secretaries of the Church Extension Association, 27 Kilburn Park Road, London, N.W.

