The Coign of Vantage

"On the contrary, they are maintained in a most efficient way by the free-will offerings of the people; and as there is no motive for erecting a church unless it is needed, they are all well filled with rich and poor alike, and their main work is to teach not only the citizens, but strangers from other lands, to cultivate truth and love, like their great Founder."

"You have no trouble, then, I suppose, in regard to the religious training of your children?"

"Why should there be any trouble when we hold that the first duty of our youth is to learn the will of God and do it? Education begins with this greatest lesson, and the whole of life is ours to illustrate its meaning."

As we thus discoursed in this strange fashion, my mind full of all that I had heard, we began to approach the centre of the city, where was a great open square in [158]