

excellent workman and a loving husband, but ugly and cross when drunk, which happened not unfrequently. This latter fact obliged the poor woman to take in washing to keep her children alive and yet she could not clothe them properly. At one time two of them were practically naked and it was winter. The woman was as honest as the day and would on no account run into debt.

The children were always around her, fretting for things she could not give them. It occurred to her Visitor, that if those children had something with which to amuse themselves, they would not bother the poor mother, and accordingly some old books suitable for children, that were upstairs in a wealthy lady's home, were given to them. They were delighted and spent hours looking over the pictures and were all attention when the oldest child read aloud to them.

And all this time you can imagine what a relief it was to the mother and how happy she was to see them pleased. And then as soon as it was known that these poor children needed clothing, some one was soon found who had some children's clothes to give away and the little neighbours' wants were soon supplied. Such visiting brings the rich into vital touch with the poor and both are greatly benefited.

And now we come to the Mission or Missions in connection with the Parish Church. When the Rector has many pressing duties, is it not encouraging to him to find someone, whom he can call upon to assist him, and is it not a privilege to be able to assist in God's work? There are many laymen qualified to lead Missions, and I think the Brotherhood of St. Andrew is doing good work by selecting and training many more.

In the ordinary Service a Layman can make himself useful in many ways.

A stranger comes into Church and has no book. What your Minister would do in such a case, if he were there, you as a Layman can do for him. And I think any act of kindness or welcome is usually far more appreciated by a stranger, when it comes from a layman than when it is done by a Clergyman.

The Church sometimes needs ventilating. Do not always deem it necessary for some one else to find this out. If you know what is to be done, do it yourself, or

bring it to the attention of the proper persons.

There is another branch of Lay Help which I have not spoken of as yet: I mean that which calls for those who may not be particularly well adapted for such work as visiting the sick or teaching a Sunday School Class, but who are first-class business men. You need such men to look after the finances of the Parish, to superintend the repairs or construction of Church property. Some laymen have special gifts in this direction. I have known men to give weeks to such work, and they did it gladly; yet you could never have induced the same men to teach a Sunday School Class on any account.

It is a law of our nature, that we are glad to work for those, whom we love, and a man does not love Christ who is not willing to work for Him.

And now, lastly, what is the effect of lay help on the Clergy. When you faithfully assist them to the full extent of your power, you hold up their hands, as Aaron and Hur held up Moses' hands, and the result is the same; for your Clergy conquer where they would otherwise fail, for they are able to accomplish far more, and what they do is done easily and well.

My fellow workers, let us all then try to fulfil the law of Christ, which is: "Bear ye one another's burdens," so that at the last Great Day, when we stand before our King, He may be able to say unto us: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

CATECHISING.

It has been suggested to us that we might give in each Number of our *Gazette* a few sets of Questions and Answers, which young and old might read or even learn on Sundays, week by week in every month. Possibly, too, in some instances when all the children of a class see the *Gazette*, the Sunday School Teacher or Clergyman might examine in the work done and see whether it is understood. We shall begin by giving a very short and elementary course on the Church Catechism, and when this is finished we shall begin again and take the subject up on a larger scale; and when this has been done, we will go through