

MIMICO INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

THERE is undoubtedly not a little selfishness in the stern battle of life. Many are crushed and fall on the field. Though many die of their wounds, all are not left to perish. Christian philanthropy has its ambulances on the ground and its red-cross service, the aim being to care for the injured, nurse them back if possible to moral health and restore them to the ranks that on due time they may acquit themselves well in the inevitable contest which is the lot of humanity. Among the educative and reformatory institutions maintained in Ontario, I claim the interest and support of the people more than the Industrial School at Mimico. It was founded for the purpose of training wayward boys and those whose circumstances in life were in some respects unfavourable. The institution since its commencement has been branching out both in extent and usefulness. Its promoters and those who devote much time and effort to the promotion of its objects have the encouragement and satisfaction that come from successful endeavour. Many of the youths who have graduated from the Mimico Industrial School are now good workmen and earning an honest livelihood in different spheres and in different places; many have reason to bless the day they were enrolled as pupils in a school that in a sense has been the making of them.

The institution is, as far as circumstances will permit, conducted on the cottage plan, a plan that has many reasons to commend it. Attention is given to the sanitary conditions of the establishment, and the dormitories are models of neatness and comfort. The school-rooms are well arranged, and have all, or nearly all, modern appliances for facilitating the work of education. The specimens of the pupils' work testify alike to the care bestowed on them by the teachers and their own diligence and aptitude in the prosecution of their studies. The school would not by any means be lowest in the list if placed in comparison with the best schools in the Province, and confessedly Ontario's educational work ranks high. The chief feature of the establishment, industrial training, is well carried out. The young lads are told off for different industries. The farm surrounding the buildings affords excellent opportunities for agricultural training, and the produce of the farm is an important item in the maintenance of the boys. The carpenter shop is well equipped, and much useful work, specimens of which may be seen all about the place, are turned out. The neat and appropriate uniform in which the boys are clothed is made in the tailors' shop, also kept in a neat and tidy condition. Shoemaking is another industry regularly carried on within the walls of the factory building, and the boys are provided with durable foot-wear made by the Crispins among themselves. The latest addition to the industrial branches is not the least interesting. It is a printing-office, not on a large scale, but amply sufficient to give a practical knowledge of the art preservative to a number of the boys who may desire to learn a trade that is itself one of the leading factors of modern enlightenment. Like the other departments the printing-office is a model in its way both in equipment and in arrangement.

The annual meeting of the institution was held on the afternoon of Saturday last. It was attended by many who have taken an active interest in its progress and welfare since the beginning, and a large number of people were present who viewed with interest the evolutions of the boys as they went through their exercises, inspected the buildings, the boys' workmanship, and attended the meeting presided over by Lieutenant-Governor Kirkpatrick, who gave an opening address every way worthy of the occasion. The various reports showed that the institution is in a satisfactory condition and under admirable management.

It ought to be understood that the Industrial School at Mimico is supported by a local government grant and by voluntary contributions. Neither of these sources is very copious, and it is clear that large resources would greatly increase the usefulness of the institution. Its benefits are not confined to Toronto; it is provincial in its scope, and its work and requirements ought to be better known than they are throughout Ontario. The Industrial School is doing a most admirable work for the physical, moral and spiritual elevation of a class that has good claims on the community. There is a Sabbath school connected with it, and the boys attend the churches to which they respectively belong in the neighbouring village. No one who contributes to the work carried on by this most deserving institution will regret either the amount they give or the frequency with which they offer their donations.

UGANDA.

WHETHER Uganda is to be retained or abandoned by Great Britain is a question that is attracting considerable attention at present. Interest in Uganda is all the greater since the publication of the Life of Mackay, the devoted and earnest missionary who spent several years of active labour and ended his days there. A great trading company have also a large stake in that African region who anticipate great gains from their investments. With the exception of the military classes, and those whose financial interests are concerned, the people of Great Britain are not in favour of territorial conquest and annexation. In this regard they are more bent on concentration than expansion. From what has already been said publicly by the new Minister of Foreign Affairs it would appear that he favours the proposal to withdraw from Uganda. He has also intimated that such a course was contemplated by his predecessor in office, Lord Salisbury. Naturally enough the East Africa Company, who have large interests in the country, view with alarm the intention to abandon the land they regard as so promising. Pressure has been brought to bear on Lord Rosebery, to secure, if possible, an expression of opinion favourable to the continuance of a British protectorate. He is too much of a diplomat, however, to commit himself in advance, and intimates that he cannot impart the purposes of his colleagues concerning the scene of the Company's operations. The friends of the Company advance philanthropic reasons for the retention of Uganda. The plea they urge is not without its force. If there is anything the people of Britain abhor, it is slavery. The Arab slave-dealers who scour the African continent in their raids are looked upon with detestation. Much would be endured and many sacrifices made to bring about the entire suppression of the African slave-trade. It is asserted, not without reason, that the withdrawal of British influence from Uganda would leave the vast region open to the ravages of the Arab slave-hunters, who in time would reduce it to a state of desolation, after inflicting on the inhabitants, who at present number something over four millions, unheard of cruelties.

In addition to the philanthropic arguments there are the religious. Mr. Stanley, who of course knows the country well, says that there are thousands of Christian converts there who would be exposed to massacre if British protection were withdrawn. The Church Missionary Society, under whose auspices Mr. Mackay laboured, have interviewed the Foreign Secretary and urged that there be no change in the policy of the Government because such change would be detrimental to their mission. It is to be regretted that the rivalry between the representatives of Protestant and Roman Catholic missionaries in Uganda has been so keen and relentless. Both these and the Mahomedans as well have long been engaged in efforts to secure the favour of the King of Uganda for themselves and the discomfiture of their competitors, a condition of things far from advantageous to the advancement of pure Christianity. It is feared that the retirement of British representatives will leave the field open for the French Roman Catholic missionaries, and for the occupation of the abandoned territory by the French, whose occupation would possibly be disputed by the Germans. The Church of England people, headed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, are strongly in favour of the retention of Uganda by the British. They are hoping for support in this by the Nonconformists in England because it is known that they are deeply interested in the promotion of Christianity on the African continent. What course the British Government will ultimately pursue is as yet undetermined, but the East African Company have had placed before them the advisability of withdrawing and have been given three months to consider the question. It is extremely doubtful if the English Nonconformists will be of one mind on the subject. They are enthusiastic in their anti-slavery opinions and zealous upholders of missionary enterprise, but they have at the same time an aversion to increasing the national expenditure for the purpose of aiding trading companies in their far-off enterprises. Their anti-State Church views also lead them to regard with disfavour these efforts to advance the gospel under protection of the bayonet.

Should the British Government resolve to withdraw from Uganda, that is no reason why missionary societies should recall their labourers from that field. The dangers they would encounter would doubtless be even greater than they are now, but if the Church of Christ waits till she can have government protection for her ambassadors in heathen lands, it will be long before the gospel is preached to all nations.

Books and Magazines.

THE eighty-fifth volume of *Harper's Magazine* will be completed with the number for November.

MR. JACOB A. RUS, the author of the well-known "How the Other Half Lives," has ready for immediate publication by the Scribners a new book entitled "The Children of the Poor." It is supplementary to the former work, and, like that, is based upon close, personal observation of the poor in great cities. It is illustrated by photographs taken by the author.

THREE new books for housekeepers are announced by the Scribners. "Letters to a Young Housekeeper," by Mrs. Bayard Taylor; "The Little Dinner," by Mrs. Christine Terhune Herrick; and a new and revised edition of Marion Harland's "Common Sense in the Household." The last-named is now issued in what is called the Majority edition, celebrating the twenty-first year of its popularity.

MR. JOHN ADDINGTON SYMONDS has just completed a life of Michel Angelo, which will be issued shortly in two handsome volumes by the Scribners. Mr. Symonds being the recognized authority on the Renaissance, his new book, which is the ripe fruit of prolonged study, will undoubtedly surpass all previous works. Both as a portrait of Michel Angelo and a picture of his times. It is to be handsomely illustrated with reproductions of Michel Angelo's works.

WHEN a woman of such unquestionably high position in New York society as that occupied by Mrs. Burton Harrison consents to define the best and most careful social laws for girls, our young women can well afford to listen and remember. There is every indication for a most agreeable interest in the series of articles on "The Well-Bred Girl in Society," which Mrs. Harrison will begin in the November issue of the *Ladies' Home Journal*. Mrs. Harrison will, in this series, take up every phase of a girl's life in society, and point out to her principally the mistakes it is wisest for her to avoid.

CHARLES DUDLEY WARNER, in the Editor's Study in *Harper's Magazine* for November, will give expression to some pertinent thoughts on the responsibilities of literature and especially the moral recklessness of so much of our popular fiction. "It lies with the writers of America," he says, "to open wide the new day, to infuse hopefulness into life, to fight materialistic tendencies, to cease to expect to make the world better by the exhibition of its debasement and vulgarity, and to hold up an ideal for inspiration. It is believed that literature needs only to apprehend its responsibility to assume it."

KNOX COLLEGE MONTHLY. (Toronto: The J. E. Bryant Co.)—The October number opens with Principal Caven's admirable sermon delivered at the opening meeting of the Pan Presbyterian Council. "The position in Quebec" is described by Rev. P. Straub, who speaks from personal observation. Rev. Robert Hamilton gives "A Leaf from my Notebook," containing sketches of his wanderings in Europe. If one leaf contains so much that is interesting, surely there are others of equal value. "French Evangelization in the Province of Ontario" is the subject that Mr. J. A. Davignac urges on the sympathetic attention of his readers. The *Monthly* holds its own well.

THE ROD AND THE ALMOND TREE. (Montreal: W. Drysdale & Co.)—The excellent sermon delivered by the Rev. A. B. Mackay, D.D., at the opening of the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa has been published in a very neat form by the enterprising firm named above. Dr. Mackay's sermon deals with what is eminently a present-day topic, the authority of Scripture. The text is Jeremiah 1:2, "I watch over My Word to perform it." The topics are: "There is a Message which God calls His Word," "Mark how God creates His Word," and "Mark the Purpose for which He Watches over it." The sermon is marked by the force, freshness and evangelical fervour characteristic of Dr. Mackay's preaching.

LOYALTY. By Edwin H. Burgess. (New York: Anson D. F. Randolph & Co.)—This neat little paper-covered volume of fifty-four pages takes its title from the first of three sermons it contains. The discourse was delivered to the members of a Grand Army Post, and contains many plainly told and timely truths as to the kind of service a truly loyal citizen will render his country. He inveighs forcibly against the evils of extreme partisanship, the prevalence of vice, bad literature. The second sermon was also delivered on a public occasion immediately before a State election. He considers the questions, "Who should Vote?" and "How should one Vote?" The last sermon, both powerful and telling, is on the evils of the drink traffic. Mr. Burgess is a native of Nova Scotia, and is a Presbyterian pastor in the State of New York.

THE Antiquarian Bookstore of L. Rosenthal, of Munich, has recently issued a catalogue of publications devoted entirely to the "Imitation of Christ," generally attributed to Thomas à Kempis. It includes no fewer than seven hundred numbers. With the single exception of the Bible, no other book has made such a record. There are four manuscripts of the famous work, and about one hundred and fifty editions have been published, of which the first was issued in 1472. Translations into forty-two languages are extant. There are editions for the blind, microscopic editions, editions de luxe, among them the famous Paris edition of the *Imprimerie Imperiale* in thirty colours, and the Prague edition, printed entirely in gold, etc. The list of works on the authorship is very large, beginning with Coejanus and going down to Hirsche and Wolfgruber in our own day.

THE Messrs. Anson D. F. Randolph & Company will publish immediately the "Life of Sarah Childress Polk," the "Wife of the Eleventh President of the United States," by Anson and Fanny Nelson. "Up and Down the House," by Anna Warner. "Stanley's Historical Memorials of Canterbury," illustrated edition. "Echoes from a Sanctuary," by Rev. Henry White. "The Wonderful Counsellor," by Rev. Henry B. Mead. "The Elder Brother," "Thoughts for every Sunday in the Year," by Sarah S. Baker. "Aunt Liefy," by the author of "Fishin' Jimmy." "Missionary Landscapes in the Dark Continent," by James Johnston. "Pulpit Commentary: Ezekiel, Vol. II." "Biblical Illustrator: Exodus." "Men's Thoughts for Men," by Rose Porter. "The Child of the Precinct," by Sarah Doudney. "Godiva Durleigh," by Sarah Doudney. "Prince Dimple on his Travels," by Mrs. G. A. Paull. "The Last Day," by Imogen Clark. "Believe in Christ," by Rev. Andrew Murray.