

INTRODUCTION.

MANY persons into whose hands this little book will come may ask, "Who is the Compiler? What has he done?" To this it is not right that he should give a detailed answer; but it may be thought not inconsistent that I, as his friend, should say, in a few words, why this book is published, and what Mr. Bowman Stephenson is trying to accomplish by this and other means.

The accompanying sketch, written by a gentleman whose literary and Christian character may well free him from all suspicion of bias, will inform the reader of the nature of the work to which Mr. Stephenson has devoted his life. But before he was led to work thus for the children, he was, as he still is, a minister of the Gospel, and earnestly engaged in Evangelistic efforts. Having received some education in music during his College days, he did not hesitate to use his musical ability for the cause of his blessed Master, and nearly ten years ago was the first man who "sang the Gospel" in England. Engaged at that time in conducting missionary work in one of the darkest neighbourhoods in London, he was able, by singing and preaching, to gather together large audiences of working-men. Since that time he has found singing most helpful in many Christian enterprises, and has been frequently called on to aid by this means evangelistic efforts. In some of the principal theatres