

possible case, Mr. Turner holds it desirable to refuse admission to children (not being orphans or really destitute) on a first commitment. Of the results of reformatories in the diminution and prevention of crime, he has to report that, after making allowance for unknown and doubtful cases, it may be taken as well ascertained that the treatment is successful in reforming at least 70 per cent. ; and, considering that the system has had to deal at first with the more hardened offenders, the proportion may be expected to increase. It is rare to find in these institutions the dogged, downcast look or manner which shows that the masters are more anxious to be obeyed than to be liked or trusted ; there is generally a kindness and consideration for the children which indicate right views of the work undertaken. It would be difficult to find a movement so widely spread, and embracing persons so various in their religious views and their social position, which has been carried on with so few failures and so little rivalry or dissension. Of the whole 1,031 discharges in the year, only 18 boys or girls were sent away as hopelessly incorrigible ; 90 went to sea, 22 enlisted, 110 emigrated, 660 went to service or employment or to the care of friends, 27 died, 15 were discharged on the ground of health, and 89 absconded and were not recovered. The expenditure was £98,638 ; the Treasury payments for maintenance amounted £66,374 ; the parents' payments were only £2,439 ; contributions from the rates produced £4,750 ; contributions from voluntary associations and payments for voluntary inmates, £975 ; subscriptions and legacies, £14,136.—*Times*.

6. MORAL STATISTICS OF LONDON.

The subjoined calculations on this subject appear in a recently published work entitled "Our Moral Wastes, and how to Cultivate them." "In the city, out of a population of 323,772 people, only 60,899 were in chapel on the census Sunday in 1851 ; in Lambeth, 61,664 out of 251,345 ; in the city, 31,575 out of 127,869 ; in Marylebone, 77,055 out of 370,957 ; in the Tower Hamlets, 82,522 out of 535,110 ; in Westminster, 49,845 out of 241,611 ; in Southwark, 31,879 out of 172,863 ; and in 1859 according to the evidence taken by a Select Committee of the House of Lords, notwithstanding all that has been done to induce attendance since 1851, there were sixty-eight per cent absent in Southwark, and sixty per cent absent in Lambeth, of the adult population capable of attending the means of grace. To show the moral evil which these figures represent, it has been ascertained that, if we were to analyze the population of London and compare the number of its individuals of each class with an ordinary-sized town, say a town with a population of 10,000, we should find in the vast metropolis as many persons as would fill about two towns with Jews ; ten towns with persons who work on the Sabbath ; fourteen towns with habitual gin-drinkers ; more than ten towns with persons who are every year found intoxicated in the streets of London ; two towns with fallen women, to say nothing of those who are partakers of their sins ; one town with gamblers ; one with children trained in crime ; one with thieves receivers of stolen goods ; half a town with Italians ; four towns with Germans ; two towns with French ; while there are as many Irish as would fill the city of Dublin ; and more Roman Catholics than would fill the city of Rome. Nor is this all ; there are as many publicans and beer and tobacco shops as would fill two towns of 10,000 each, open every Saturday ; and if we allow only twenty-five customers to each place, as representing the amount of attendance for the day, we have 500,000 people say half a million of men and women thus occupied, while 384,015 only are attending the house of God ! In London there are 20,000 public-houses, and beer and tobacco shops open on the Sunday, and only 750 Protestant churches and chapels for Divine worship. In Scotland, with the same population, there are no public-houses open on the Sunday, and 2500 churches and chapels where the people attend on the means and ordinances of grace. In London we have the concentrated essence of evil within a radius from the centre point of seven miles. In Scotland the iniquity that even there abounds is spread over a surface of 1500 square miles.

7. HOMES OR HOUSES OF REFUGE FOR DESTITUTE AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN.\*

At the close of my separate report for last year, I very briefly adverted to the "Boys' Home," established at Toronto during the preceding year, by some benevolent ladies, for destitute and neglected children, and cited that institution as affording an example well worthy of imitation in our other large cities.

The "Home" above referred to, though upon a small and unpretending scale, and supported wholly by voluntary contributions,

\* Extract from the Separate Report of E. A. Meredith, Esq., Prison Inspector for the year 1861,

was the means of rescuing upwards of sixty unfortunate children from want and vice, in the first year of its existence.

During the last session of the legislature, the "Boys' Home" at Toronto was incorporated by act of parliament ; and in the last twelve months has effected a very large and steadily increasing work of good among the unfortunate class for whose benefit it is designed.

The great object, as is generally admitted, of penal legislation and of penal institutions of every kind, is to diminish crime ; and I am fully persuaded that no class of institutions, penal or reformatory, is calculated to produce so large results in this way, and at so small a cost to the community, as those institutions (whether styled "Ragged Schools," "Homes," or "Industrial Farms"), which, seeking out the neglected and perishing children who otherwise would grow up in our midst in ignorance and vice, afford those unfortunate outcasts the necessary education and training to enable them to earn an honest living for themselves.

Deeply impressed with the inestimable benefits resulting to society from such institutions, I submitted my views upon the subject to my colleagues and the Government, in a report presented to them in the early part of the year.

In that report I advocated the establishment of institutions under the name of "Homes," for the destitute and neglected children of the poorer classes ; for those children, who, unless some such provision were made for them, would, of necessity, grow up in ignorance and vice. It was recommended that the Circuit or County Judges, and the Recorders of cities, should, under certain restrictions and conditions, have authority to commit such children to "Homes," regularly established, for certain limited periods. That the managers of the "Homes" should give the children a suitable training and education, and afterwards apprentice them to some farmer or tradesman, or otherwise put them in the way of earning an honest living. It was recommended that the "Homes" should be supported, mainly at least, by voluntary contributions, or by payment from the municipalities sending children to them, and that the aid of the legislature should be invoked for the purposes, principally, of legalizing the establishments, and of conferring the necessary power upon the magistrates to send the children to the "Homes," and on the managers to retain the children for the periods prescribed by law, and afterwards to apprentice them out.

It is not my intention to repeat here, in detail, the facts and arguments set forth in that report on the several topics above referred to. But there are one or two points connected with the subject which seem to demand a few words of further explanation in even this very brief memorandum.

Those points are "The necessity of Homes," and the "Classes of Children for whose benefit they are more particularly intended."

NECESSITY FOR "HOMES," &c.

Canada boasts, and with reason, of the liberal provision which she makes for the education of her sons. She offers to all her children a good education, and offers it to them free of charge. But yet it cannot be denied that a large proportion of the juvenile population, and especially of that class of the juvenile population who, from their circumstances and position in life, most stand in need of training and education, derive no benefit whatever from our admirable school system. It is, indeed, a matter of common remark that, in our large cities particularly, a great proportion of the children of the lower classes are utterly destitute and neglected, and grow up in our midst without receiving any education or training to fit them to act their part in life as honest and useful citizens.\*

The existence of this large and unfortunate class of the community is wholly ignored by society, until the wretched victims of neglect and cruelty present themselves before our magistrates, and become in due course the inmates of our jails and penitentiaries.

But imprisonment in jail tends only to complete the ruin of the unfortunate child. So far from checking the growth of juvenile crime, the imprisonment of the young in jail is, in fact, itself a fruitful source of crime. The indiscriminate herding together of the young and comparatively innocent with old and hardened criminals in our common jails, has here, as elsewhere, produced in too many cases its natural fruit,—the utter degradation and permanent ruin of the more youthful and innocent prisoners. We, in Canada,

\* The Honourable Mr. Justice Hagarty, in an able charge delivered to the Grand Jury of the City of Toronto, on the 12th instant, "On crime and juvenile vagrancy in the City of Toronto," gives some statistics shewing the large number of children in that city who attend no schools, public or private, and the fearfully large number of commitals to jail of children under 15 years of age. It would appear from the official documents cited by the judge, that the school population (that is, those from five to sixteen years of age) of the City of Toronto was 11,595, and that there were 2,777 (or nearly one-fourth of the whole number) not attending any school. The number of children under 15 years of age committed to the Toronto jail for the last five years is frightfully large. The numbers are thus given by the judge:—

1868	71	1860	153
1859	90	1861	73

In Montreal the number of youths of both sexes under 16 years of age committed to the city jail last year appear, from the returns furnished to the House, to be 127.