

another course even worse than this, and that is, gratuitous secretaryship, whether of ministers or of laymen. A few cases there are of excellent missions with such a secretaryship, as in the Manchester Mission; but here, too, this is the exception; and even in these cases, a secretaryship such as we propose, might, probably, soon double the success.

On the several points just specified, the history of Mr. Nasmith's labours supplies a very instructive lesson. Of the multitude of societies, formed by him in England, Scotland, and Ireland, but a small number survive, and these chiefly City and Town Missions. The result is the same in America. Of all his Transatlantic Missions, the most important, next to that of New York, was that of Philadelphia; probably for this reason, as our narrative has shown, that it enjoyed, at the outset, a larger measure than any other of the Founder's fostering care. Concerning the society of Philadelphia, the Rev. T. G. Allen, its Secretary, in transmitting to Mrs. Nasmith documents for this Memoir, thus writes: "The labours of your husband were very important, indeed, in various parts of our country. In this city you may well remember the favourable influence he exercised. He seemed particularly adapted to go forward as a pioneer, to prepare the path of usefulness to others. Our City Mission is, under the blessing of God, indebted to his efforts for its existence. This Mission is still in being. A number of agents have been employed a part of the time; but now *I am the only agent* in the field. By this Mission much good has been accomplished, and many souls eternally benefited, we trust; and to the Lord our God be all the glory. As to the Young Men's Society, I do not know that it now exists."