

conscious usefulness at her post, as well as the moral support of those to whom she is responsible in the conduct of the Home, successfully to withstand. Grumblers and ill-behaved ones, such as are found in ordinary households, who had left the Home dissatisfied, or who had been dismissed, have been taken hold of by other persons or Institutions, and, whether from motives of enmity or motives of interest, have been used as instruments of harm against the Home, in the attempt to crush the character of the Matron, and to oust her from her post. Thus persons who have never seen either the Matron or the Home have been prejudiced against both. This has been used to injure both, and used also to beget unkindly feelings of other Institutions. It is unfortunate that a newspaper, in its wanton abuse of its liberty, should have lent itself to this, with so much sensational severity, that people could scarcely help saying where there is so much smoke there must be fire. But that it was the burning of the incendiary's own material has since been made evident.

The six published Reports of the Home speak of satisfactory cases and of the opposite, even the very denunciations of the Home by ill-conducted ones being recorded.

The 1873 Report contains record of the proceedings of a Meeting assembled at the Home, to bring about smooth and pleasant working with other Institutions. This is reproduced in the Appendix, where also will be found notice of our relations with other Institutions, as taken from the 1872 Report, and also our correspondence with the Protestant Infants' Home. It has been known to Messrs. Claxton, McLennan, Alexander and myself, who have from first to last been most cognizant of this work, and upon whom by contentment of others responsibility has rested, that fault was found with its management, but knowing well the competence and excellent character of the Matron, knowing also the real working of the Home, and its results of reformation and blessing in numbers of instances, while they have regretted but could not remedy this fault finding, they have been happy to enjoin upon the Matron a quiet pursuit of her own work in her own way, and to afford her needful counsel and encouragement therein.

For myself and Mrs. Taylor, upon whom these gentlemen and their wives have laid the fuller and more direct responsibility, which, owing to the felt importance and value of the work, we have been willing to assume; and for these friends also in their measure we can claim that sufficient

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