

almost continuously, the thought has suggested itself to us: "What is being done at home in the poorer districts of our City?" Can we say, as our Master did to the messengers of the zealous Baptist, "The poor have the Gospel preached to them;" or must we confess that there are many members of our Church in the poorer parts of the city who, from some cause or other, do not attend the parish churches, and who, from want of suitable and convenient places of worship, are practically shut out from the privileges of the Gospel? The subject is surely worth enquiring into, not only as a matter of duty to God and of obedience to the commands of Christ to "preach the Gospel to every creature," but even on the far lower ground of the benefit and welfare of society in general. It might be said that it pays to make men Christian even from a social and economic point of view. Taking, therefore, for granted the fact that there is a nominally Christian but practically unchristian element in many of the districts of our city, what is the remedy suggested?

Herein—in devising a remedy—lies the chief difficulty. It may be affirmed at once that there must be combination of some sort or other, either an organization to look after the whole city, or one for each individual parish in which there is need of a special effort to reach non-churchgoers. ; Perhaps, as the question is one which concerns the whole Church as well as the individual parishes, there might be place for a general and particular organization, *i.e.*, one which would concern itself with the general superintendence, and one for the separate parishes.

Say then that the clergymen of the Church of England in Montreal should form themselves into a society, with the Lord Bishop of the Diocese at their head, as chairman, for the purpose of taking into consideration the needs of the city in regard to Church extension, or the provision of Mission halls, etc., in the poorer parts of the city. There ought also to be a treasurer and a clerical secretary, whose business would be to collect subscriptions to carry on the work of the Society. This Society should undertake, wholly or in part, the erection of new parishes, or rather new churches, as circumstances might require, and should also lend aid, financial or otherwise, to clergymen to build Mission halls, or open other such places of worship in the poorer districts in connection with those parishes, and under the direction and control of the various rectors of the Parishes. Such a Committee could, moreover, look after the various Church of England charities or organizations—if need be—at present existing, or establish others, as occasion might arise. In addition to this general organization, there might be one for each parish where required, with the Rector of the Parish at its head, for the purpose of carrying on the services in such Mission halls, etc. It is with this latter organization that we are concerned, and of which we wish to speak