

ignorance, and wickedness, have since become so earnest in their desire to secure an education, that they attend the Night School as well as the Day School.

Satisfactory as are the results, however, they have to be attributed chiefly to local causes. The ladies and gentlemen connected with the Grace Church Mission have done much to induce the children to go to the School, and the patience, the kindness and intelligence of Miss How have contributed largely to make the undertaking a success. It is not what the School has done or can do that affords ground for congratulation, but what it will probably lead to. It has served to direct public attention to a class hitherto neglected; it has proved beyond a doubt, that kindness is the correct method of dealing with such pupils after they are brought into school. What is now needed is a slight amendment in the law to enable the School Board to exercise compulsion in bringing such children into school, and securing their regular attendance. It may be argued that we have already a compulsory School Law. True, but that law merely provides that children from 7 to 12 years of age shall have the right to attend School in defiance of their parents. It prevents parents sending their children to work too soon, but is powerless in clearing the streets of vagrant children, as its penalties are directed only against the parents themselves. It is perfectly clear that with drunken, debased parents such a law could not be enforced. We must have power to deal with the pupils themselves, and in most cases they have no inclination naturally to go to school. It is true the Industrial School Law gives such power to deal with those children who are not employed. We are not likely to have an Industrial School in Toronto for some time however, and even if one were in existence, it would be found that most of those for whom it was intended would evade its provisions by claiming to be employed as news-boys or as boot-blacks.