

is invaluable, because she first interests and wins the child, and through him, the parents. Any one who establishes a mission kindergarten, and places the right woman at its head, is following out Christ's injunction, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

The need of exerting such an influence is great, both in reclaiming the lapsed masses of our cities and in extending Christ's kingdom in foreign lands. The kindergarten must remain a subordinate branch of the work at any mission station, but has proved to be a most valuable auxiliary. It aims at laying the foundation principles of Christian character, at winning the little ones before they have been estranged by racial or religious prejudice. Naturally, it prepares the way for more extensive educational work, and opens up many other forms of Christian activity in the homes and elsewhere, as has been observed.

It is not necessary now to offer any apology for educational methods in missionary work. Results more than justify them. The most effective and far reaching work has been done in the schools, where the missionary has preached Christ daily through the silent testimony of a pure and unselfish example; preached to an audience yet in the formative period of life, whose characters are yet plastic and who are prepared to receive the Gospel message by love and respect, already inspired by the life of the Master, and he may have the joy of seeing patient, prayerful teaching rewarded by tokens of the Christ-life being reproduced in his pupils. The kindergarten affords special opportunity of thus moulding character. It offers a peculiar position of advantage, for the little ones enter, still possessing that subtle sympathy with nature and the happy trustful spirit, reminding us that Heaven lies about us in our infancy. Their hearts are yet free from superstition, and the power of evil habits and prejudice has not warped the nature.

The kindergarten is invaluable as a means of developing a strong, intelligent Christian life amongst the families of converts. In all mission work the hope of the church is in the