

and manner of the past—neither of us being without the advantage of some experience of what is called Christian work.

But surely this does not assume that it is any part of our doctrine or pretension to claim infallibility, perfection of judgment or of action, but only honesty of intention for ourselves, and the one to whom has been delegated the internal administration of the Home. We can only promise the best of any ability and the fullest of any unweariness and patience which may be afforded to us, so long as the means of carrying it on are continued to us.

It is something to know and to have cleared the Charybdis which whelmed the former effort, and our anxiety is to clear also the Scylla on the other side.

(By this I meant avoiding on the one hand the dangers of too many managers and on the other the danger of insufficient oversight or management.)

We well know whence a present attack comes, which may or may not yet be completed—remarkable chiefly for its audacity. Before now we have had to defend the matron from the same aspersions; we have tried to be just, and we have been satisfied in the main of the integrity, and honesty, and truthfulness of Mrs. Gowan. This has obliged us to disregard their author, and this disregard its object has been little able quietly to endure. It would be easy with such material, unhappily, as some of those who go out or may be sent out of the Home, to make out sensational stories, but the cases which have been adduced are not new to us, and are susceptible of ready explanation. We are quite aware that Mrs. Gowan is quick to resent injury, ready of pen and strong of utterance, with a deal of natural independence of spirit, able to hold the rein and able to ease it, all which outside people who come to her in the way of self-assumed authority do not kindly take. But to rightful authority and to Christian principle she knows how to submit.

She is not mercenary, notwithstanding insinuations to the contrary. Two hundred dollars is the small annual money recompense she receives, but I believe she looks for recompense which nothing on earth can afford. Two sons-in-law and a son and daughter, all well-to-do, present three open-doors whither she might enter to-day, carrying her own money independence in her pocket. This we know she possessed when she entered the Home. So neither is she dependent on the Home. My apprehension is that advancing years and the trials and persecution to which she is exposed may lead her to resign her post, which, notwithstanding all that has been said to the contrary, we who know best her qualifications do believe it would be difficult otherwise so well to fill. We have been told that she manages to "hoodwink" ourselves; that is a higher estimate of her ability than we have yet seen our way to accord.

There are unquestionably persons in Montreal who would like to see the Home closed, but these are the very persons I am little disposed to consider as not having much in their views in common with our own. But it would be unbecoming to return railing for railing. The case of the Ameri-