

sons taken to the police station last year, "drunk and incapable," was 14,366, and the number of arrests for assaults and disorderly conduct, 22,364. For years there has been a battle going on between the Church and the dram-shop in Glasgow. Up to a recent period it had to be admitted that the publican had beaten the preacher, but now there is reason to hope and believe that the tide has turned.

The *Christian Institute*, in the business part of the city, is a large and handsome edifice. It is the head-quarters of the Young Men's Christian Association, and a rendezvous for Christian workers. It has lecture hall, reading room, gymnasium, &c. Among its office-bearers are many of the leading merchants of the city. It has a membership of about 8000. It has 177 branches in different parts of the city, in each of which prayer and fellowship meetings are held every Sunday. The members engage in the various kinds of Christian work common to similar institutes, and receive the cordial and hearty support of the ministers of all denominations. In order to appreciate the evangelistic work carried on in Glasgow it must be seen. The time at my disposal enabled me to see only a few samples of it. One Saturday, at noon, I called at the Christian Institute. The usual prayer meeting was being held. On the platform I was agreeably surprized to find a prominent minister of our own Church, the Rev. J. A. R. Dickson of Galt. Mr. Oatts, the general secretary, drew out a programme for me in which was included an invitation to a free breakfast, free lunch, and free dinner, which made me think Glasgow was a very cheap place to live in on Sundays at least! At four o'clock, in the same place, was the weekly practice of the "Mispah Band." But who are they? A band of stalwart men, one thousand strong, who had been addicted to drink, but who by the grace of God had been reclaimed. Now they are not only total-abstainers but avowed Christians. They meet here every Saturday to practice singing, under a competent instructor, with the purpose of going out in small companies to lead the service of praise in evangelistic meetings wherever they are held. The same evening a detachment of them were present at a large temperance meeting held in the John Morrison Hall and contributed very materially

to the interest of the proceedings. There were some 1,500 of all sorts and conditions of persons present—a most attentive audience, a considerable number of whom came to the platform at the close of the service and signed the pledge. As many as 50,000 were led by these meetings to take the pledge during the past year. The way to our hotel led us through "the Saltmarket." This notorious street, had enough as it still is, has undergone a great change for the better. The chief instrument of the improvement being a railway that has ploughed a broad furrow obliquely through the centre of it, by which means a number of the worst rookeries were demolished and the light of heaven admitted where formerly there was unrelieved darkness. The free breakfast, dispensed next morning to some 1,500 poor people was a sight not easily to be forgotten. The most perfect order and decorum were observed. A detachment of the Mispah Band were there and sang at intervals. A number of visitors had seats on the platform and partook of the common meal with evident relish. When the repast was over, all united in singing the 23rd Psalm, after which boys and girls all over the house stood up and repeated the text of the day,—“The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is Eternal Life through our Lord Jesus Christ.” This was briefly expounded by the chairman, a Mr. Hatfield from Yarmouth, N. S. Short addresses by others followed, and this remarkable meeting was closed with the doxology,—“Praise God from whom all blessings flow.” The centre of evangelistic work in the northern district of the city is the Cowcaddens Free Church. It is about twenty years since the work began there and it has now reached large proportions. The church is a very handsome one, accommodating easily eleven hundred, though a much larger number is often found in it. The minister is the Rev. William Ross, formerly of Rothsay, who, without promise of stipend, accepted a call to the pastorate some two years ago, and has since carried forward the work with remarkable energy and success. There are services in this church every night in the week, largely attended. The Sabbath evening services are usually crowded. A peculiar feature is a service of song held in the street every Sabbath evening for one hour before the time of public worship. On this