

is also clear that thus and thus only do we meet and combat the evil at the fountain head. And so in Germany, France, Britain, the United States, and other countries, institutions have been established with this end in view. Scarcely had the idea been started than it was caught up everywhere and worked out with a oneness of consent that was extraordinary. Voluntary effort was soon backed by State aid, and the movement grew so important and extended during the last twenty years, that legislation became necessary to systematize and regulate it. There is now scarcely a city or county in Great Britain without its Reformatory for juveniles, and it is admitted by every one that were it not for these, the criminal population would be immensely larger and more dangerous than it is. +

The broad difference between these institutions in Britain and the United States, is that in the former country the view is to keep the boy long enough to school him, teach him a trade, and build up a sound character in him, while in the latter the aim is to send him as soon as possible out to some home in the Great West where all that may be done for him. Thus, in Britain the boys remain in Reformatories from three to seven years; in the States, perhaps not as many months. Any one who understands the facts of the two countries, must see that this difference is just what was to be expected and what must continue to exist. Of course it follows that much more is accomplished in the States with the same money. The amount spent on the training of one boy in an English Reformatory would be sufficient to lay hold of five in New York, give them a little preparatory drill and instruction and settle them in the West, where there are always hundreds of farmers ready to receive them and adopt them into their own families.

In Halifax we do not closely follow either one or the other of these methods. We have our own peculiar difficulties, and we cannot grapple with them in any cut and dried way, and so we try to adapt our method to the facts of our case. Our aim at first was to take in the worst boys, no matter what their creed, and do them what good we could. This did not work. The religious instruction given to the boys we considered simple christian teaching, and so it might be +