

1,000. This was well filled, as I afterwards found, by 600 pupils, and an adequate number of teachers. It is, at once, School and Church: a semi-circular dais at the upper end, within which is a rail, enclosing communion-table, pulpit and reading desk, all moveable, to suit the particular duties. On this occasion it was occupied chiefly by visitors. Surveying the entire from this point, many things strike you. The motley appearance of the assembly, clad for the most part, in rags, of as many colors as pieces, and as many pieces as square inches. Their ages, varying from sixty to six—several generations—grouped together in one class, each drawn by the same power, an inquiry after God's book; intent on one object—its study. Here was no listless indifference; all were in earnest; it was as digging for gold; a search as for a hidden treasure. And if this marked the pupils, it was equally evident that the teachers felt that they had something to communicate worth giving; that they had come that day to feed the hungry; to enrich men who felt the miseries of spiritual poverty; and to clothe them with the robe of salvation. The teachers were of no one class in society. Near the door was a son of Sir Duncan McGregor, the Chief of the Police; next to him was Dr. Law, an eminent physician; beyond him was a converted Romanist. Among the female teachers were Mrs and the Misses Whateley (the Archbishop's family), and others, evidently of the higher grade in society, whilst a few were little removed in station from their pupils. One soul seemed to pervade all. It was indeed a labor of love.

Who can compute the present good such institutions confer? Here is a practical denial of the demagogue's hackneyed falsehood,—that the rich have no sympathy with the poor. After the teaching had continued for more than an hour, at a signal given by the Superintendent it ceased, and the whole school were ready for the usual examination. One verse only, generally forms the subject of teaching, whether in the school or from the pulpit. Thus it is, that the same truth is viewed in many points, and so repeated as to be fixed in the memory. On this occasion, one at least of each class gave answers; and these evidenced, from many, a clear insight into the meaning of the verse. The examiner put his questions with great simplicity, and the answers were oftentimes returned with much force of expression. At the close I was requested to address them, and to give the dismissal blessing.

During the teaching I had gone among the pupils, both to ascertain its character and to learn their views of the School.

“Would the Priest be pleased, if he knew that you were here?”