

operation." And again, "I notice the children become punctual and regular in attendance in proportion to their proficiency in the manual training work. They are exceedingly fond of it, and would be glad to give up all of their playtime to do the work, if permitted to do so."

One beautiful feature of the Society's work is the education it offers freely to crippled children. Waggonettes belonging to the society call for these little pupils at their home, and bring them back at close of school. Still more interesting, but more pathetic, is the class for mentally defective children. "The moral improvement," says the report, "among these children has been most perceptible, and with every moral improvement comes a mental improvement." Some children, who were considered mentally hopeless, were found to be suffering from defective eye-sight. Through the kindness of a friend they were furnished with eye-glasses, and in most cases a marked improvement was noticed in their mental development. In connection with many of these schools there are free baths, and some have gymnasiums also.

Though the work of instructing adults is, strictly speaking, beyond the province of this society, one of its schools, standing in the heart of "Little Italy," does an important work among ignorant and helpless Italian immigrants. In the evening classes of this school adults and children study together. Besides the grade work corresponding to that of the public schools the women and girls are taught sewing by hand and machine, dressmaking, crocheting and simple embroidery. But the teaching of adult immigrants is largely relegated to the Board of Education. In Greater New York the Board has seventy-five educational centres where work is carried on in the evening. Many of the attending pupils are persons who are obliged to go to work very young and are now trying to repair the losses of their childhood. Some are working lads and girls, too busy to attend day school. On the "east side" of New York, where the proportion of recently landed immigrants is large, many foreigners attend these evening schools in order to study the English language. The instruction of these new citizens is the most important work of the evening schools. Not only do they learn the language spoken in their adopted country, but they also become acquainted with its coinage, customs, laws and form of government. They are taught, at first, in their own tongue. As soon as they are able to follow instruction in English, however, they are placed in English classes, even though they are as yet unable to read or write the language. They look upon the transference as a promotion and an honour.